# Daily Report

# Latin America

FBIS-LAT-89-051
Friday
17 March 1989

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*FBIS-LAT-89-051* *17 March 1989*

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## Cuba

### Rodriguez: Brady Plan Reflects 'Slight Change'

*FL1703003789 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0001 GMT 17 Mar 89*

[Text] Cuban Vice President Carlos Rafael Rodriguez said today in Sao Paulo that the grave implications of the foreign debt are imposing the collective defense of Latin American countries. In statements made to several journalists covering the international seminar on the foreign debt, Rodriguez stressed the great importance of the event which is being attended by personalities and specialists from several countries.

After speaking in favor of a debtors forum which will allow regional countries to unify their positions in their negotiations with creditors, Carlos Rafael stressed that the so-called new U.S. proposal on the debt [the Brady plan] reflects only a slight change from its previous positions. The United States—perhaps taking into account the seriousness of the situation and appreciating the Latin American social drama, as was observed in Venezuela—admitted that there is a need to reduce the debt but the important question is when and how this will be done, said the Cuban vice president.

### Roa Kouri: UN Should Observe U.S., UK

*FL1703022889 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0014 GMT 17 Mar 89*

[Interview with Raul Roa Kouri, vice foreign minister and chief of the delegation to the 45th UN Human Rights Commission, UNHRC, by Felix Fernado Garrido during "Exclusivo" program hosted by Daniel Torres—live]

[Text] [Garrido] Good evening, Daniel. Good evening, Cuba. As you just announced, Cuban Vice Foreign Minister Raul Roa Kouri is here with me. I welcome you and good evening here on Rebelde's "Exclusivo" program.

[Roa Kouri] Good evening Garrido and good evening to the comrades of Rebelde's "Exclusivo" program.

[Torres] Good evening, Comrade Roa.

[Garrido] It's difficult, Roa, to say something that hasn't already been said on this magnificent event, on this resounding victory for our delegation at the 45th UNHRC. I cannot evade discussing that success and I imagine you can't either as head of our delegation. However, above all, I want to know what you think the future of U.S. diplomatic acts will be.

[Roa Kouri] In regard to the matter of human rights, it is evident that for the United States, in its ideological struggle against socialism, the matter of human rights is something it will continue to use against socialist countries in general, especially against certain nations, such as Cuba. I think they will have to consider this carefully in view of the three consecutive defeats that Cuba, the Latin American group, and the nonaligned countries that defended our positions have given them during the past 3 years.

I think that, from a procedural point of view, the United States, just as any other state, has the opportunity to introduce, or try to introduce, a certain topic into the agenda or to use any existing topic to attack us. However, as I said before, I think they will have to consider this carefully because the defeats have been continuous. There have been three.

[Garrido] Mr Vice Minister, I would like now to discuss something that has called my attention. If the United States is the principal promoter of this action—I'm referring to the 45th period of sessions—against our county, why was it the United Kingdom that practically negotiated or spoke in favor of this draft resolution against our country?

[Roa Kouri] The answer is very simple. The chief of the U.S. delegation in this case was the policeman, the dark Batista policeman, Armando Valladares, who is simply inept. He is incapable of leading anything. He was not able to lead the U.S. delegation or the talks held by the cosponsors of the U.S. draft resolution with the Latin American group of cosponsors, much less the procedural debate that later took place in the commission itself when we voted. That is why the representative from the United Kingdom, which is a close ally of the United States, was responsible for doing everything which the policeman, Valladares, was not able to do.

[Garrido] In conclusion, I would like to mention, Roa, a suggestion that I think is reasonable. If the United States has had the opportunity to introduce actions against our country, why can't the United States also be visited, just like any other country, by a mission of the UNHRC? What is your personal opinion of this?

[Roa Kouri] Well, my opinion is not just of a personal nature. I have held talks with representatives from other member countries of the UNHRC who feel that the moment has arrived, the moment has truly arrived, for the UNHRC to also concern itself with the situation of human rights in countries like the United States, United Kingdom, Netherlands—the country known as Holland—the FRG, where we know there are certain human rights problems in jails, in high-security prisons in the United States where the Puerto Ricans, Blacks, etc., languish. They receive mistreatments and humiliations of all sorts. This also happens in British prisons where the conditions there have prevailed since 1986 when great disturbances in the jails occurred. Nothing has changed since then. This also is the case in other Western countries. They are not immune to having the commission investigate the situation in their countries.

**Media Preparations Made for Gorbachev Visit**
*FL1703031589 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0024 GMT 17 Mar 89*

[Report by Perla Marina Alcover]

[Text] Tonight we are discussing something that is not yet news. It pertains to the upcoming visit of Mikhail Gorbachev, CPSU secretary general and chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium. We should remind the listeners of the "Exclusivo" program that on 30 January, the GRANMA newspaper announced that the Soviet Union's highest leader will visit our country at the beginning of April at the invitation of Commander in Chief Fidel Castro.

In reference to this, we can report in advance that the press hall will be inaugurated in Havana. It will facilitate the work of the hundreds of Cuban and foreign journalists who will report on the events surrounding the presence of Mikhail Gorbachev in Cuba. It is expected that close to 600 professionals, including journalists, camermen, photographers, and other technical personnel will cover the visit.

To guarantee the informative work of all the participants, the press hall, which is in the Habana Libre Hotel in the capital, will include 24 booths, two television studios which will carry reports on Gorbachev's visit to other continents, and all the necessary equipment for international communications.

Journalists from all over the world will arrive in Havana. As an example of the interest in Gorbachev's visit to Cuba, we can tell you that, up to the moment, 470 journalists have been accredited to report on the momentous event.

Of course, the "Exclusivo" newscast will report in detail, with precision and enthusiasm, on Gorbachev's visit to Cuba.

**Computer Program Sold to Soviet Union**
*FL1603141589 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Mar 89*

[Text] The document granting sale and copy and marketing rights of the Multi-G computer program package has been signed by Cuba Electronics and the Program and Systems Center of Kalinin, Soviet Union. With the signing of the document, Cuba closes its first sale of copy and marketing rights of software [preceding word in English] to the Soviet Union.

Multi-G is a program generator developed by specialists of the Systems Design Center attached to the State Committee for Material and Technical Supply. The program is widely used in the country. It was presented at the Leipzig, GDR fair and won an award at the Forgers of the Future national exposition. Multi-G is a result of the progress made by the young Cuban electronics industry.

**Hospital Director Visits Kuwait, Syria**
*FL1603224789 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1906 GMT 16 Mar 89*

[Text] Prof Rodrigo Alvarez Cambras, director of the Frank Pais Orthopedic Hospital, has ended a visit to Kuwait during which he gave a course on noncemented [as heard] hip prostheses, conducted surgery, and gave consultations in the Al Razid Orthopedic Center. While in that Arab country, Alvarez Cambras also met with the first vice minister of public health, Dr (Nay 'al-Neket), with whom he analyzed the cooperation the two countries have in this area, which is considered to be successful, and they agreed to continue this cooperation.

The meeting between Alvarez Cambras and the Kuwaiti first vice minister of public health was also attended by Cuban Ambassador to Kuwait Julio Imperatori.

After concluding his visit to Kuwait, Prof Alvarez Cambras traveled to Damascus, the capital of the Syrian Arab Republic. He is responding to an official invitation from Syrian authorities.

**Protest of Baragua's 111th Anniversary Marked**
*FL1603213189*

[Editorial Report] Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish at 1357 GMT on 15 March carries live from Santiago de Cuba's Major General Antonio Maceo y Grajales Revolution Square the ceremony marking the 111th anniversary of the 'protest of Baragua.' The announcer says thousands of men and women from the most diverse spheres of production and services, schools, political and mass organizations, combatants of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, FAR, and Interior Ministry, MININT, are present. He adds that groups from the Border Guard Troops, internationalist combatants who fought in Angola, members of the FAR and MININT, militia men, and Camilitos will participate in the ceremony together with the people of the region and leaders of the party, state, and mass organizations. The announcer says the event is being presided over by Esteban Lazo Hernandez, member of the Communist Party of Cuba Politburo and first secretary of the party in Santiago de Cuba Province.

At 1400 GMT, two jeeps are seen approaching from opposite directions and meeting in front of the troops waiting in attention. The reviewing officer is identified by the announcer as Colonel Orestes Piloto Suarez and the chief of the troops as Colonel Rafael Menendez Ojito. After the troops are reviewed, a young Camilito introduces a pioneer who reads a poem and another one who reads an essay with which she won the first place in the protest of Baragua literary contest.

At 1415 GMT Lieutenant (Adonis Garrate Verane), combatant of Cuito Cuanavale, reads a 4-minute speech. He says the example set by Antonio Maceo led him and his fellow FAR combatants to the victory in Angola. He asserts that the Cuban land will not be occupied by any enemy because they will fight and win having as combat banner "the glorious protest of Baragua."

Division General Ramon Espinosa Martin, chief of the FAR's eastern army, reads a 10-minute speech. He says: "When General Antonio Maceo expressed in the historic protest of Baragua 111 years ago his intention to continue fighting, he was expressing the most solid and intransigent spirit of our people and turned forever into the immortal symbol of our fatherland. That action was not only a phrase but the highest expression of rebelliousness of the people who shed their blood for 10 years in order to see their fatherland free. It was the symbol of rebelliousness of the people who have decided to live with their revolution or every man and women will die with it. It was the root that gave life to the necessary war initiated by Marti."

Div Gen Espinosa Martin adds that "the grandiose example of General Antonio Maceo is always present in the FAR. His actions and thinking are present in the military doctrine and fighting philosophy of our combatants." He notes that the Antonio Maceo Order is among the highest decorations conferred by the Council of State.

After Esteban Lazo delivers a 30-minute speech the military parade begins with the national anthem and a 21-gun salute. The announcer identifies some of the groups marching in the parade representing the following: Havana's General Antonio Maceo Interservice School, Santiago de Cuba's General Jose Maceo Grajales Interservice School, Border Guard Troops, internationalist combatants, FAR's 1370 Military Unit, Interior Ministry, Santiago de Cuba's Camilo Cienfuegos Military Schools, and Territorial Troops Militia. At 1510 GMT, coverage ends while the parade is still in progress.

## Communist Party Secretary Address

*FL1603175589 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1429 GMT 15 Mar 89*

[Speech by Juan Esteban Lazo, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba, PCC, in Santiago de Cuba Province, from Santiago de Cuba's Major General Antonio Maceo y Grajales Revolution Square during the ceremony marking the 111th anniversary of protest of Baragua—live]

[Text] Comrades of the presidency, comrades, relatives of Maceo and Cespedes, once again duty calls on us to remember an event of great significance in our fatherland's history, the protest of Baragua. We are also called upon to render homage to the men who participated in this event under the leadership of the Bronze Titan, Antonio Maceo Grajales.

Deeds such as this are of permanent importance because of the lessons and examples they give us, and deeds such as this make every one of us reflect on how we are following its example in the tasks we are carrying out today in the construction of socialism. This is a struggle which was initiated by the mambises ["guerrilla irregulars"] in 1868 and which has cost our fatherland much blood and sacrifice to attain our final independence.

In this place, where the brotherly work of the construction workers, architects, engineers, artists, and historians, built Revolution Square, the people of Santiago have honored it with the name of Antonio Maceo. It will be the adequate place to commemorate and celebrate the events relevant to [words indistinct] and will also be the proper place to reflect and talk with the people on the advancements made by the revolution and the tasks that we should confront. We will also come to this plaza to reaffirm our convictions, which we honor today, and our commitment with the future.

It has been agreed by the leadership of the PCC and the government, that as of today, every year on 15 March we will honor, with a ceremony similar to today's, the Bronze Titan in this plaza. [applause] Here, the people of Santiago had the opportunity to celebrate a multitude of acts with Fidel that were characterized by discipline and combativeness, the 30th and 35th anniversaries of the assault on Moncada and Bayamo headquarters, as well as many patriotic and revolutionary activities.

Next year, when this plaza is completely finished, the people will have an exceptional place to honor and perpetuate his immortal memory. This plaza will have the monument of Antonio Maceo in a gesture which calls upon us to continue our struggle. It will be made of bronze, the same type of bronze that forged his character, political thought, valor, and military genius symbolized by his exemplary life.

For the people of Santiago de Cuba, who have the privilege of having Antonio Maceo among their outstanding children, the commemoration of the protest of Baragua is a high honor and a great commitment. This city will never forget Fidel's memorable 1 January 1984 speech, in which he said to Santiago de Cuba from Cespedes Park: On this day, we award you the title of hero of the Republic of Cuba and the Order Antonio Maceo; that distinguished son of yours that taught us that a combatant does not give up his struggle, that there can never be an unworthy pact with the enemy, and that nobody will ever be able to takeover Cuba without perishing in the battle.

We have the duty of knowing and interpreting our nation's history, to learn its lessons and know how to apply them wisely to the times we live in. Fidel has said that there cannot be good revolutionary organization without good knowledge and form of our history. As we move further along in the study and knowledge of our nation's history—from the formation of our nationality

to the outburst of the War for Independence on 10 October 1868, continued with the Small War and the War of 1895 up to the last war for our emancipation which began 26 July 1953—we feel with more strength the pride of being Cuban.

From the courageous and firm leadership of Carlos Manuel de Cespedes in the Demajagua to the most recent of our military feats in Cuito Cuanavale, the history of the Cuban Revolution is a living expression of a nation's work in the conquest for the most sacred values to which man can aspire: independence, freedom, sovereignty, solidarity, and internationalism.

The protest of Baragua, led by General Antonio Maceo, expresses revolutionary intransigence, the defense of principles and [word indistinct] values. [Words indistinct] the agreement of ending the struggle, without which its two principal objectives would not have been reached: the independence of Cuba and the abolition of slavery. [Words indistinct] political significance can show that the emancipating struggle that our nation has carried out could not be successfully crystallized under the leadership of the Cuban land-holding bourgeoisie that had begun it, due to its internal dissension and its (?disagreements) with the most humble sectors, especially with the slaves. This struggle could only be carried out with the guidance of those who represented the most oppressed and exploited masses of our nation, in other words the slaves, peasants, artisans, and the urban and rural middle classes who, later, alongside the incipient working class, were the ones who led the War of Independence that began on 24 February 1895. [Word indistinct] the doctrine programs and the organizational bases to lead the war, resulted in the Cuban Revolutionary Party, founded and led by Jose Marti. [applause]

In the midst of very serious circumstances, in the midst of almost total demoralization that led to the Armistice of Zanjon, the figure of Maceo came about. He knew how to maintain discipline, order, sense of duty, and revolutionary intransigence among his men. When the Spanish forces advanced without being stopped from the west to the east, when the Armistice of Zanjon had been signed on 10 February 1878, General Antonio Maceo refused to accept it and continued the struggle with a handful of men. A few months earlier, Maceo had been seriously injured. However, as soon as he recovered, he carried out victorious actions against the Spanish forces when the war had practically ended in Las Villas, Camaguey, and large part of the eastern territory. Furthermore, the very day when the Armistice of Zanjon was signed, the troops under Maceo virtually annihilated the famous battalion of San Quintin—one of the best units of the Spanish Army—near Santiago de Cuba. That is how Maceo showed that the war (?must) continue, that the flame of the Revolution could be saved. [Words indistinct], with (?their) general up front, were opening for our people a far-reaching road that was intelligently traveled by Marti when the war for the independence of Cuba resumed.

This spirit of intransigence, that is expressed in the protest of Baragua, has accompanied Cubans to this day. The actions of Maceo, and of the men who accompanied him, were a source of inspiration for the heroic assailants to the Moncada Barracks. This spirit of intransigence was present in the armed uprising of Santiago de Cuba on 30 November 1956, in the assault to the Presidential Palace on 13 March, [words indistinct] for the combatants of the Sierra Maestra, and in the clandestine struggle in the cities. The intransigence of Baragua accompanied [name indistinct] in the historic invasion from the eastern to the western part of the country, the same way it had accompanied Maceo and Gomez in a similar invasion in 1896. This intransigence was present in the combatants of Playa Giron, in the struggle against bandits, and in those who faced the mercenaries in Escambray. It was present in the comrades—armed only with their intelligence, courage, and revolutionary decisiveness, and the principles of socialism—who have known how to [words indistinct] with the Yankee Central Intelligence Agency in those battles that they have fought in silence and anonymity.

The intransigence and nobility of Baragua has also been present in our internationalist combatants—in Angola, Ethiopia and other African nations. It gave strength to our soldiers in Cabinda, Luanda, Benguela, and more recently in the decisive battles of Cuito Cuanavale. It has also been present in the dry and hot sands of the Ogaden Desert, while they fought a large group of Somali armored troops in the defense of the brother Ethiopian nation.

It is the same intransigence that our party and Fidel, at the head of the Cuban Revolution, have shown. It is the same intransigence that astounds and irritates our enemies because it has been the practice of this principle that showed itself in Cuba's firm position and attitude during the recent heroic military actions that helped the brother Angolan nation. As a consequence of South African aggression against that country and the talks and agreements that resulted. It is the same intransigence that was shown in Geneva when faced with the empire's ploys, who, using lies and prepotency, tried to humiliate our people, and who, as on previous occasions, suffered a crushing defeat.

This will be the same intransigence that will accompany us in the historic confrontation against imperialism. Every time we put truth against lies, reason and firmness against prepotency, we will show the spirit of Baragua. This spirit is to never give up the firmness of our principles for which we fight and struggle, to never give up the conquest of a just aspiration, to never be separated by the interests of the people.

The main protagonist of Baragua, Maceo, emerges among the great Cuban military figures—a figure that was forged during the Ten Years War as a young soldier. He came from the humble social class of the time. Since he was a mulato, racial discrimination, which existed in

the country at that time, forced him to struggle against the prejudices and limitations that were imposed on men of his race. [Words indistinct] 2 days after Cespedes' revolt in Majagua, Maceo was already a soldier in the liberating army. When with his brothers, Jose and Justo, he joined a brigade commanded by Captain Juan Bautista Rondon. In the very month of October 1868, Maceo was promoted to sergeant, a promotion he earned on the battlefield with the blade of a machete, as in all the promotions he earned until he reached the rank of Major General of the liberating army.

Before finishing the first year of war, Maceo was already a captain and formed part of the troops commanded by Donato Marmol. There, he had the opportunity to meet Maximo Gomez and fought under the command of the genial Dominican internationalist who promoted him to Lieutenant Colonel in January 1869. This is how he became the most learned student in irregular warfare [as heard] that his teacher, Gomez, had taught. He was also bonded to Gomez by a great friendship based on respect, confidence and endless esteem. They were united by a friendship that survived the confusing events at Zanjon.

It was the very father of our nation, Carlos Manuel de Cespedes, who promoted him to brigade general in 1873. At the age of 28 he dedicated all the strength, vehemence, and firmness of his youth to the splendid cause of the nation's liberty.

The Bronze Titan reached that high military rank by the merits he won with his blood and that of his relatives. Respected by the men of his command, with the extraordinary example of his military victory, and with 17 wounds in his strong body before the battle of Zanjon, Gen Antonio always had a commendable conduct. He never let himself be dragged by vanity, ambition, or prejudice. He always kept the flag of unity among all the Cuban combatants. During those 10 harsh years of battle, it could never be said that Maceo ever committed the slightest act of insubordination, despite the fact that he was a man of extreme frankness, valor, and sincerity who presented his demands and opinions to support the truth.

He new how to condemn, with hard determination, the seditious acts that other military leaders committed and which cost the Revolution so much, acts such as Laguna de Varona and Santa Rita. All of this became a true doctrine, a true school for the eastern combatants under his command, a command that was formed at that time by chiefs, officers, and soldiers. There, the Revolution, the part commanded by Maceo, was kept strong, integral, free of strife, indiscipline and sedition. However, that soldier's obedience reaches its limit at Zanjon.

Maceo's discipline does not force him to go over his principles. That is where the figure of the Bronze Titan rises to its highest. For him, the first thing was Cuba's independence; it was to save the idea, save the revolutionary principles, save the flag, save the dignity of an entire nation. Those values, found in Maceo's character, were not in him by chance. He was one of the fruits of the family started by his father, Justo Maceo, and his mother, Mariana Grajales, and they educated their children with the highest ethical principles of their time, especially in the highly patriotic fervor. In that family there was an immense love for the fatherland. Marco [as heard] and Mariana had 19 children and they all embraced the cause of independence. Fifteen of them died on the battlefield or as a consequence of the wounds received in battle. Mariana, who has passed into our history and is in our hearts as the most genuine representation of Cuban women, is a symbol of a loving motherhood who is also demanding.

She had an extraordinary personality. Although affection, care, and love for her children were present, she did not allow in them deceitfulness, weaknesses, vanity, selfishness, or conceit. This family came from this stock. They were true lions, sound men who fulfilled their patriotic duties.

This is why the Maceo Grajales family has been the highest expression of the citizens' stock, proven ethics of Spartan patriotism, that has inspired other Cuban generations, the present one and those that will come after us. Legatees of the stock of the Maceo Grajales, whole families fought actively during the last war to liberate our country as part of the entire people who joined the fight against tyranny.

More recently, we saw Mariana tremble in thousands of Cuban mothers on the occasion of the internationalist aid Cuba is giving to the brother Angolan country. Firm, as worthy descendant of the mother of the Maceos, our mothers have also been present in their aid with their solidarity, intransigence, and filial love. [applause]

Comrades, never as today has the legacy of that generation of Cubans, who found a place for themselves without deceitfulness or giving up their duty, been reflected in the lives of the people. Drastic changes have taken place in our country 30 years after the triumph of January 1959. We have created the free and sovereign nation they dreamed about. This is expressed in economic development; industrialization; development of agriculture; introduction of science and technology; development of public health, education, culture, sports; and something much more important as an end result, the honest man that the Cuban Revolution has created.

The work of the Revolution is not over. New and more complex tasks await us. Enthusiasm, disposition, and courage that have accompanied us in the struggle throughout these 30 years in work and the defense of our achievements, the construction of socialism in the times we live, demand from us like never before intelligence, tenacity, and firmness in the principles. From now on, we will not lack evidence to defend and show the value and currency of ideas the on which the Cuban Revolution is based.

There will be times to reflect and affirm the course of socialism in our fatherland. One of these moments, the most important in the next 2 years, will undoubtedly be the effort we make to be able to host our party's fourth congress in our eastern provinces. [applause] The fact that we may hold the party's fourth congress in Santiago make us, the eastern people, face a very large commitment and responsibility. As we have said before, not only Santiago but all the eastern people will host the fourth congress. [applause] This challenge presented by Fidel and Raul was received with extraordinary joy and happiness not only by the people from Santiago but it also brought the solidarity of the sister eastern provinces and, even more, the entire country. From the beginning they have united efforts and will continue so that this province can achieve this high honor as a result of its work. If to fulfill the plans and programs we promised to Fidel and to the party is to be decisive, it is also important to affirm the conviction of fulfilling our social duties at the level of that great event.

Hosting the party's fourth congress in Santiago is a challenge for all the eastern people through the work and efficiency of production and services in the struggle for development. It means we should be dedicated to creative work. It means we should maintain our beautiful traditions, being intransigent every day. This translates into the struggle to increase efficiency, savings, the rational use of each resource, strict application of science and technology, labor discipline, faithful compliance with the work tasks, and overcoming difficulties, no matter what they may be, in the daily struggle against all expressions of social indiscipline—thus setting an example for our children.

I believe that if there is something we should think about in a day such as today when we speak of Maceo and his family, it is that we should try to turn each home as the one the Maceos had, a school to shape and educate each child and youth, to turn each family into a family like the Maceo family. [applause]

For the Cuban people, our party, and Fidel, who admire this eastern land so much, their epic mountains and fields, and its heroic cities, we have the duty of responding permanently through the work of the Revolution. The most beautiful and honorable response we should have is to always wage the incessant battle to defend, strengthen, and improve socialism. Only in this way will we be capable of preserving in the future the place this region has in Cuba's history. As Fidel said: The noble and patriotic ideas rooted in the population of the eastern region of the country played a decisive role in the last liberation war.

If yesterday Maceo bequeathed us the protest of Baragua, today we carry its banners in the struggle to complete the present and the brilliant future of the fatherland.

We have various tasks ahead of us, and we are already undertaking them. Among them is the execution of important economic and social investments, and just as it is occurring in the rest of the country, they are a sign of the laborious times we are going through. All these tasks are part of an ambitious development program which encompasses practically the whole economic sector. They are economic, social, industrial, and agricultural investments, as well as investments for tourism development which are aimed at increasing exports, substituting imports, improving our people's health, and ensuring a food supply on a daily bases. These investments will also provide more facilities for international and national tourism, form a modern railway system—particularly in Santiago—and create the material conditions for the facilities that will hold the fourth party congress and the XII Panamerican Games, which our city will also cohost.

To accomplish this, we can count on the courage, decisiveness, intelligence, and dedication of a whole nation, because our nation realizes that all these investments will increase our wealth and welfare. They also realize that there will not be welfare that is not a result of our own efforts, of ou own responsible and efficient work. In the midst of this colossal effort, we will not neglect, for a second, the training of our people in defending ourselves in any field—be it military, ideological, or diplomatic. The work of the Revolution [words indistinct] will continue so that the doctrine of the war of all the peoples becomes, each time, more solid and invulnerable.

We count on the workers, on the men with the white helmets, and on the genuine fruit of the process of rectification that constitutes the construction contingents. They are a concrete expression of revolutionary awareness and our party's principles. The contingent is made up of men who are totally dedicated to work, who are possessed by the same motivation that placed Maceo in the highest place in history, who believe in the absolute surrender and unlimited loyalty to the ideas, thinking, and cause of the Revolution. We have the assurance that we will fulfill our goals, because the word of the residents of the eastern provinces has been given as well as the word of the [word indistinct] of the people of Cuba, who are worthy descendants of the heroic intransigence of Baragua.

On 1 January 1989, on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the entrance of the rebel army into Santiago de Cuba, Commander in Chief Fidel Castro said from the balcony—where 3 decades before he presided over the first mass ceremony of the Revolution, announcing to the world the extraordinary victory achieved by our people—that time will pass, the years will pass, and that maybe that balcony will be restored, but that from there we will celebrate many more great anniversaries of our Cuban Revolution. [applause]

The responsibility taken on by this generation that is currently under training, and the responsibility that will be taken on by other generations, shows us their trust in

the people—in the same people that a century earlier were capable of carrying out such extraordinary and glorious actions such as the protest of Baragua. In this century, the construction of socialism has been materialized for the first time in America—and just a few miles away from the most powerful, aggressive, and exploitative imperialist state of our times. The great trust we have in the coming generations is implicit in the teaching of the protest of Baragua. It is there as an example; it has meaning, and it is within reach, because the principles and values that it raised are immortal.

Viva the 11th anniversary of the protest of Baragua! [crowd shouts: Viva!] Viva General Antonio, author of this far-reaching revolutionary event in the history of the fatherland! [crowd shouts: Viva!] Viva our Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, loyal example of the historic continuity of the protest of Baragua! [crowd shouts: Viva!] Viva the people of Cuba! [crowd shouts: Viva!] Fatherland or death, we shall win! [applause]

### Tripartite Commission To Meet in Havana

*FL1603151089 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Mar 89*

[Text] Representatives from Angola, Cuba, and South Africa will meet in Havana on 21 and 22 March to review the agreements on southwest Africa. The tripartite commission had previously met in Luanda on 25 February, after the agreements had been signed in New York in December 1988.

### Official Speaks at Interparliamentary Meeting

*FL1603231689 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2228 GMT 16 Mar 89*

[Text] At the 81st Conference of the Interparliamentary Union in Budapest, Cuba today stressed the importance of the signing of the Tripartite Agreement in safeguarding the sovereignty of Angola and attaining Namibia's independence. Ramon Pez Ferro, chief of the International Relations Department of the National Assembly of the People's Government [ANPP], said that the signing of this document is a momentous step in the struggle of the peoples.

### Power Plant To Be Linked to National System

*FL1703035289 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 17 Mar 89*

[Text] The synchronization of the eastern Havana thermoelectric plant, the second 100 megawatt per hour unit, with the national electric system is expected to occur during the second half of this year.

Unit No 1 has been connected. This stage precedes the startup of three more 100 megawatt per hour units which will be finished before the end of next year. Along with these tasks, the ground breaking has begun for the construction of five units that will each be able to generate 200 megawatts of power an hour.

Once the thermoelectric plant is completed in 1997, the thermoelectric plant in eastern Havana will be the largest one in the country with a capacity of 1,300 megawatts per hour. The plant currently uses the gas from the hydrocarbons that come from the Jaruco wells as fuel. This saves 32 tons of oil a day.

In addition, 48 km of pipes that will link the Matanzas super tanker base with the Havana thermoelectric plant are being installed. This way, the oil will travel via the pipeline and it will not depend on the more than 20 trucks that transport the fuel daily from the Nico Lopez refinery.

This generator has Soviet technology and advisors. It is being built at the cost of approximately 700 million pesos and it will contribute to the improvement of electrical voltage.

### National Revolutionary Police Detain Citizen

*FL1603144089 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Mar 89*

[Text] The National Revolutionary Police have detained citizen Luis Matias Sumodevilla Martinez for continued fraud. He is 63 and resides at 562 Velazquez Street, apartment 3, in the capital's Luyano neighborhood. This individual swindled citizens by posing as an official from various state organizations for the last 3 years. He offered housing to people in need and got money from them. Citizen Sumodevilla Martinez will be turned over to the tribunals once the investigation is completed.

## Antigua and Barbuda

### Opposition Files Legal Motions on Elections

*FL1603235789 Bridgetown CANA in English 2243 GMT 16 Mar 89*

[Text] St Johns, Antigua, March 16, CANA—The opposition United National Democratic Party (UNDP) has filed legal motions in the high court over 7 of the 16 constituencies it unsuccessfully contested at last Thursday's general elections. The UNDP, which won just one seat, is seeking to have fresh elections declared in the seven constituencies, contending irregularities adversely affected its candidates' chances in the poll. The election was marred by a late start in polling in some constituencies and a shortage of ballot papers.

The candidates and seven constituencies are:
Donald Halstead—St Johns City West
Victor McKay—All Saints East and St Luke
Strickland Jarvis—St Johns Rural South
Hilson Baptiste—St Marys South
Charlesworth Samuel—St Marys North
Nathaniel Francis—St George
George Pigott—All Saints West

The UNDP is being represented by local lawyers Gerry Watt and Colin Derrick. Watt told CANA he has filed election petitions with various irregularities such as non-compliance with the election laws, allegation of corrupt practices, bribery, and undue influence. Watt is representing Baptiste, Pigott, Samuel, and Francis while Derrick will be appearing on behalf of Halstead, Jarvis, and McKay.

## Grenada

### New Political Party To Be Launched 18 March

*FL1703000389 Bridgetown CANA in English 2130 GMT 17 Mar 89*

[Text] St George's, Grenada, March 16, CANA—Another political party is expected to be launched in Grenada on Saturday [18 March], informed sources said Thursday. The party is expected to be headed by one-time Grenada United Labour Party Gul Hucvoember and former University of the West Indies (UWI) lecturer Dr Raphael Fletcher, they reported.

A final decision is still to be taken on the name of the party, said one offical who asked not to be identified, but it could be called the Grenada Peoples Party (GPP) or the Grenada Labour Party (GLP).

Fletcher, a former deputy political leader, was booted out of the GLP last year on allegations that he was closely associated with communists while living in Britain.

Currently there are three other parties on the island—the ruling New National Party, the National Democratic Congress, and the Maurice Bishop Patriotic Movement (MBPM).

## Haiti

### PDCH's Sylvio Claude Rejects 13 Mar Decree

*FL1603201689 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1700 GMT 15 Mar 89*

[Excerpts] The Reverend Sylvio Claude of the PDCH [Haitian Christian Democratic Party] disapproves of the decree of 13 March 1989 which puts the Constitution of 1987 back into effect. He calls for the resignation of the Avril government.

[Begin recording] [Claude, in Creole] It is a subterfuge. It is a roundabout way that he has taken so as to be able to modify the Constitution de facto. And—note well —he has reserved himself the right to have the Haitian people ratify his de facto amendments by means of a referendum. He has put on ice, amended, all the articles that say that the Constitution may not be modified by referendum! Therefore, I say that he has made a de facto amendment to the Constitution. Soon he will call the Haitian people to a referendum to ratify the changes he has made. Thus, he is not putting the Constitution back into effect. On the contrary, he is destroying the Constitution.

By amending Article 150, by removing it from being in effect and putting it on ice, he is taking all the power—because the Constitution.... [changes thought] All governments and all authorities should have constitutional restraints. There must be a limit beyond which they cannot go. The only article that provided this limit to him was Article 150. Thus he is now the only authority. He is now above the Constitution.

That is what made Theagene say that even those articles and dispositions which have not been put on ice cannot be applied. They cannot be applied either—for example Article 291—because he can apply what he chooses and not apply what he chooses.

[Unidentified reporter] Rev Claude, politically, how do you find the decision?

[Claude] I tell you that politically it is a desire that he had in mind and that he has (?fulfilled). I personally knew he was going to do this. It is the consequence of everything that has been done up to now. He did a sequence of twists and turns, you see, in order to arrive at this.

If he had really wanted to put the Constitution back into effect, to really apply it, he would not even have had to (?go through all this). He could have formed the Provisional Electoral Council right after 17 September. He would not have had to come up with this business of Cedha [Electoral College of Haiti] and he would not have had to hold a forum. He could have simply applied the Constitution. Now he has gone and destroyed the forum.

Thus, the political implications of this are that the government has taken over power and this power is for life. So he is not going to hold elections or anything like that. Those are the political implications, OK? He has taken power. He is not going to hold elections or anything else. He has even crushed the Army.

He has crushed the Army, crushed the macoutes—his own camp—crushed everybody. He has crushed the Haitian masses. Thus, he has taken power, period! Duvalier did it. [passage omitted]

Thus, the political implications are that we have now fallen into a totalitarian, dictatorial government. There is no other solution but for us to pressure this government into leaving. [end recording]

## Further on Reaction to Decree

*FL1603174189 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1700 GMT 15 Mar 89*

[Excerpts] A total of 36, and not 37, articles have been temporarily suspended by the decree of 13 March 1989 reinstating the constititution of 1987. Members of the Haitian Armed Forces will not be able to run for elected office unless they will have been retired or unattached for a full year at the time that the decree summoning to elections appears.

The announcement on Monday 13 March that those particular dispositions of the Constitution of 1987 had been temporarily suspended was a mistake, says LE MONITEUR [the official gazette], which carries the government decree of 13 March reinstating the Constitution of 1987.

A total of 36 articles considered incompatible with those in power of a provisional military government have been put on ice by General Avril. Article 291, which excludes zealous partisans of the Duvalier regimes from any elected office for a period of 10 years, is not on the list of the articles suspended. Therefore, it remains in effect.

Under this 13 March decree, aside from the 36 articles put on ice, Article 2 says that the executive power is exercised by the president of the military government, who is the president of the Republic and the chief of state, until the president of the Republic elected through presidential elections takes the oath of office.

Article 3 of the 13 March decree stipulates that the attributions of the legislative branch of the government are temporarily exercised by the executive branch until the validation of the power of the elected members of the Senate and Chamber of Deputies. [passage omitted]

Mr Francois Latortue of the Modelh/PRDH [Democratic Movement for the Liberation of Haiti/Democratic Revolutionary Party of Haiti] expresses great satisfaction with the news, and says he thinks it is normal for the Constitution to be reinstated, if the government intends to organize democratic elections in Haiti.

Jean Claude Roy, the founder of a new political party, the UCH, Union of Haitian Constitutionalists [Union des Constitutionalists Haitiens], receives the news favorably. Mr Roy says that this constitutes a big victory for the Haitian people and for the democratic sector.

[Begin Roy recording] [Passage omitted] I think it is our duty to—at this point—congratulate the government and also give it the moral support that it will most certainly need, because the reinstatement of the Constitution will surely be contested by certain sectors, all of which we know. [end recording]

Rockefeller Guerre of the UPD, Union of Democratic Patriots, reacts differently. Guerre, who is a member of the Democratic Bloc, disapproves of Prosper Avril's decision to reinstate the Constitution of 1987. He demands that the Constitution be reinstated in its entirety, and would like to see a transitional government formed.

[Begin Guerre recording, in Creole] We of the Democratic Bloc do not consider that the government saying that it is reinstating the Constitution of 1987 is a victory for us. Why? Because Avril has not really reinstated the Constitution of 1987. He has come up with his own constitution—that is to say, a constitution that will allow him to hold onto power, do whatever he wants, etc.

He has taken out 37 articles, which constituted the essence of the Constitution—which constituted what we could call the safeguards against dictatorship, against absolute power, against the presidential term for life. [passage omitted] He also suspended Article 150, which says that a president must not have greater power than that given him by the Constitution. So now we have fallen into a Presidency with full power. [passage omitted] [end recording]

For his part, Rene Theodore of the Unified Party of Haitian Communists continues to call for a government of national coalition to govern the transition to democracy. [passage omitted]

[Begin Theodore recording, in Creole] Instead of putting certain articles of the Constitution on ice, they could reestablish the Constitution regarding everything having to do with norms and regulations, with a view to the advancement of (?things) in Haiti. How could this be done? Well, through other forums, they could arrive at a government of national coalition which would adopt the name: national government council. However, this time it really would be a true national government council, which would be the expression of coalesced forces and at the same time would be based on a program that corresponds to the aspirations of the masses. [end recording]

Edouard Francisque, a former member of Jean-Claude Duvalier's government, calls General Avril's decision a political coup d'etat. Francisque, president of the Union for the Revival of Haiti [Union pour le Renouveau Haitien], feels that in reinstating the Constitution of 1987, Prosper Avril gave in to national and international pressures.

[Begin Francisque recording] From the legal point of view, the matter gives rise to certain difficulties—because how can one adopt a constitution, or put it back into effect, only partially—by adopting certain articles and rejecting others? What authority does the government have to put on ice certain articles and keep others? [passage omitted]

A constitution is a whole. One either accepts it in its entirety, with all its ins and outs—with its logical consequences—or one rejects it entirely. One cannot modify it, either, because one is not empowered to write a constitution. [end recording]

Eddy Volel, head of the RDC, Assembly of Christian Democracts, feels all Prosper Avril did by reinstating the Constitution was to violate the Constitution. Volel feels this government measure constitutes a resounding defeat for those who participated in the forum held at the Legislative Palace last 9-17 February. He invites Prosper Avril to resign.

[Begin Volel recording, in Creole] [Passage omitted] He has not brought back the Constitution at all! He has just decided to do whatever he wants. He has broken his soldier's word of honor to always respect the Constitution of Haiti. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Victor Benoit of the Conacom, National Committee of the Congress of Democratic Movements, does not a priori condemn Prosper Avril's decision to put certain articles of the Constitution of 1987 on ice. He announces that Conacom will make an official pronouncement on this matter in a communique, very soon.

[Begin Benoit recording, in Creole] [Passage omitted] The whole thing is to find out, first of all, why Gen Avril decided to do this right now. Mr Avril has been in power for a long time, and there has been much discussion about this. He has been in power since 17 September. There have been requests that he do this before, and he had never complied. So, why did he decide to do this now? Next, which of the articles have been put on ice? [passage omitted] [end recording]

One of the articles put on ice by the government—Article 284, paragraph 3—is giving rise to many questions in Haitian political circles. This article forbids using referendums as a way of modifying the Constitution. Lawyer Moyse Senatus of Conacom thinks this decision is suspicious.

[Begin Senatus recording, in Creole] Why did they put an article such as this on ice, when the popular will decided categorically that under no circumstances should constitutional amendments be made by means of referendum? Thus, we find this suspcious. We are wondering what the government's got at the back of its head.

Thus, insomuch as it could be connected with the idea of a new referendum, we think that, on the political level, it is maladroit. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Mr de Ronceray, who is on a tour in the United States, also gave his opinion on the return to the Constitution of 1987. [passage omitted]

[Begin De Ronceray recording] [Passage omitted] We also noted that through this decree, Gen Avril also consolidated the power of members of the Armed Forces. [passage omitted] The government also eliminates certain spheres of jurisdiction by the military courts. It frees itself of any financial obligations toward political parties during electoral campaigns; and also allows, for members of the Armed Forces, certain prerogatives in connection with positions in the civil service or with elected office. [passage omitted]

We of the MDN [Mobilization for National Development] feel that the reinstatement of the Constitution frees the country from the false trails of the 9 February 1989 forum, and renders the 23 February 1989 decree creating a Permanent Electoral Council null and void. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Reynold Georges, former member of the constitutional assembly and former member of the national assembly under Leslie Manigat's presidency, disapproves of the government measure.

[Begin Georges recording, in Creole] When I first heard about it, I applauded it—until I heard they had taken out certain articles, because a constitution is a whole. It is something one accepts as a whole.

This shows us that we have reached a situation where there are two kinds of citizens in the country: the military, who are normal citizens; and the Haitians, who are second-class citizens. [passage omitted]

We ask the general to rescind this decree, because it is not in keeping with the aspirations of the Haitian people. [passage omitted].

I see many people maneuvering under the table and engaging in crooked wheeling and dealing, thinking that the general is going to hold rigged elections for them in order to put them in power. They are applauding the decree and saying that it constitutes progress for democracy. It does not constitute progress for democracy at all!

Let me explain it to you clearly. It is crooked wheeling and dealing, [words indistinct]. It is crooked wheeling and dealing in that they [not further identified] are trying to find a way to (?get elected) so they can do something for themselves—because they [not further identified] will never turn it [not further identified] over to anyone, the way I understand it.

That's how I see it. And what most surprised me is that today I ran into a former colleague from the constitutional assembly who even threatened me. He told me that they [not further identified] would shoot me if I went and talked—because, you see, the last time they had missed me. And that this time they wouldn't miss. [end recording] [passage omitted]

### Embassy on Ties With Dominican Republic

*FL1603202389 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1700 GMT 15 Mar 89*

[Excerpts] Haiti is asking that the families of the laborers [braceros] who were killed in the Dominican Republic be indemnized. The Dominican Government must pay an indemnity to the families of the 45 Haitian braceros [preceding word in Spanish] who were killed in last January's accident as a prerequisite for the normalization of relations between Haiti and the Dominican Republic, said—among other things—Mr (Paul Arcelin), the charge d'affaires of the Haitian Embassy in the Dominican capital.

In statements to the press, Mr (Arcelin) stressed that General Avril's government would like to see relations with the Dominican Republic analyzed in a global manner—not just the commercial aspects of these relations. [passage omitted]

Our position is clear. We must try to settle this problem as quickly as possible. It is of capital importance to us, said Mr (Arcelin). He added: We think that an indemnity should be paid to the families, and the authorities must admit to the mistakes they made in connection with this matter.

We remind listeners that 2 weeks ago, Dominican President Joaquin Balaguer denied statements by Haitian Foreign Minister Serges Elie Charles that the Balaguer government had decided to pay the victims' families an indemnity. President Balaguer said he had discussed the matter only informally with Mr Charles during the inauguration of Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez in Caracas last 4 February.

## Reaction to Reinstatement of 1987 Constitution

### MDN's De Ronceray Comments

*FL1603144989 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1400 GMT 15 Mar 89*

[Text] In an interview granted to Radio Metropole from Miami, where he is visiting, Mr Hubert de Ronceray, the leader of the Mobilization for National Development [MDN], said in regard to the revival of the Constitution of 1987, that a return to constitutional order is an important step on the way to the construction of a democratic government. He also said that the government should now present its political calendar to the nation, as well as set up the conditions indispensable for establishing a climate of security and confidence, so as to accelerate the democratic process.

Nevertheless, continued Mr de Ronceray, it is true that the party has received with a certain amount of satisfaction the return to the Constitution—with a certain number of articles put on ice, so to speak. This does not mean, however, that things are perfectly clear. Mr de Ronceray says that (?there are still) the political will and confidence (?to be) reestablished.

Asked about the articles put on ice, Mr de Ronceray said that upon reading the decree, he sees that General Prosper Avril has shelved two principal political forces: the parliament and the prime minister. Also, says Mr de Ronceray, the president of the military government has consolidated the power of the members of the Armed Forces by removing them from under the jurisdiction of all ordinary courts, within the framework of the crime of high treason against the nation.

The MDN leader also says that the decree puts on ice a very important article, Article 149. By putting Article 149 on ice the military government fails to recognize any alternatives in case of a vacancy in the Presidency.

Finally, the MDN leader thinks that certain other articles should also be put on ice, and others amended—such as Article 291 of the Constitution.

### UNDH's Theagene Reacts

*FL1603150389 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1700 GMT 15 Mar 89*

[Excerpts] Let's go back to the reactions to the reinstatement of the Constitution of 1987. [passage omitted] Jean Theagene of the UNDH, National Union of Haitian Democrats, declares that the government does not have the right to modify the Constitution in any way whatsoever; however, he nevertheless understands why the government made the decision it did, which in his opinion constitutes a way to unblock the situation for Haiti. Listen to Jean Theagene.

[Begin Theagene recording] For me, a constitution must be taken in a global manner, in its entirety. One cannot take one part and drop another. In all republics large or small, it is sacrilegious for a presidential decree to reinstate a constitution—and even more so, for it to amend the articles of a constitution. One either takes a constitution in its entirety or drops it entirely.

However, since the nation is thoroughly blocked, and since the government is seeking a consensus with a view to unblocking it and unifying the democratic process, General Prosper Avril, in the name of the raison d'etat—I suppose—has decided to put on ice certain articles, as he stated clearly in his speech. And in listing these articles, he stopped at Article 284, confirming—had this been needed—that the transitional dispositions had now come to an end [l'epuisement des dispositions transitoires].

Thus, we saw that Article 289 has given way to the decree creating the Provisional Electoral Council. Well, along the same line of thought, since Article 291 is also part of these transitional dispositions that have run out, it too falls—borne down by its own weight, just like Articles 285, 285-1, 286, 287, 288, and so on.

We of the UNDH, as leaders of the class that constitutes a majority, can do nothing other than congratulate the government, which by taking this measure—although it is true that the measure is indeed an acrobatic one—is trying to reconcile the nation with itself by allowing the voters to choose from among the sons of a single nation, in whose heart burns the same love for the common fatherland. [end recording] [passage omitted]

## St Christopher and Nevis

### Election Supervisor Seeks Peaceful Voting Day

*FL1703001089 Bridgetown CANA in English*
*2345 GMT 16 Mar 89*

[Text] Basseterre, St Kitts, March 16, CANA—The supervisor of elections in St Kitts and Nevis, Eugene Petty, has appealed for public support in ensuring that the March 21 general elections here are peaceful. At the same time, he reminded Kittsians and Nevisians that they face fines or imprisonment of up to six months for violating electoral rules.

Petty, in a national address Wednesday, called for support in observing the guidelines and the law governing the electoral process and urged all eligible voters to exercise their franchise.

Tuesday's poll will be a straight fight between the Peoples Action Movement-Nevis Reformation Party coalition and the Labour Party. Twenty-five party candidates and one independent are facing the polls. They are contesting the eleven seats in the twin island federation, eight on St Kitts.

The parties include the small Progressive Liberal Party (PL) and the Kelsick Wilkin Monopoly Breakers (KWMB). On Nevis the Nevis Reformation Party will clash with Concerned Citizens Movement (CCM).

The two islands have 26,481 voters, 21,224 in St Kitts.

## Trinidad and Tobago

### Expelled Ministers To Launch New Party 30 April

*FL1603234589 Bridgetown CANA in English*
*2244 GMT 16 Mar 89*

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, March 15 [date as received], CANA—Ministers expelled from Trinidad and Tobago's ruling National Alliance for Reconstruction (NAR) launch their new political party on April 30, officials announced on Thursday. Former ministers, Basdeo Panday and supporters presented the new symbol of the United National Congress (UNC) to journalists and diplomatic representatives at a Thursday news conference. The UNC'S launch will take place at a rally at Port-of-Spain's national stadium. The UNC, whose name was chosen through a contest, will be run by a 21-member committee elected on a one-man, one-vote basis.

Panday said that the UNC had learned from the mistakes of the NAR, now ruling for 27 months. Panday spoke at the news conference of plans for the new party which he said would pick up the national unity message the once four-party NAR had promoted on the 1986 campaign trail.

Panday was formerly opposition leader as head of the Indian-based United Labour Front (ULF) before it merged with three other political parties to form the NAR, which won a landslide general elections victory in December 1986. Four former prominent ULF members were kicked out the cabinet in 1987 and 1988 following a series of accusations levelled at Prime Minister A.N.R. Robinson and the direction the NAR administration was taking.

Asked about whether the UNC would now replace the Indian interest group base the former ULF had claimed, Panday insisted on Thursday that the UNC doors would be open to all. Questioned specifically on the Indian-dominated look of the current UNC interim executive, Panday said the group of ministers had been created by the NAR which had dismissed them. He added that he would not "window dress the party with mixed races to promote the new grouping. [quotation mark as received]

## Costa Rica

### Arias Writes Duarte, Condemns FMLN Threats

*PA1703000989 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2020 GMT 16 Mar 89*

[Text] San Jose, 16 Mar (ACAN-EFE)—Costa Rican President Oscar Arias said today that the Salvadoran guerrillas' "threats" to prevent the elections on Sunday, 19 March "should be repudiated by those of us who have sought peace and democracy in Central America."

In a letter addressed to his Salvadoran colleague Jose Napoleon Duarte that was published today, Arias questioned the attitude displayed by the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] which, not long ago, gave assurances of its desire for peace in El Salvador.

"If the FMLN sincerely supports the agreements reached by the five Central American presidents, as its leaders have told me," Arias wrote Duarte, "now is the time to prove it. If the FMLN dares to harm a single compatriot on election day, its message to the entire world will be unequivocally incompatible with its message of brotherhood and reconciliation."

Arias' letter answers a message Duarte sent him on 13 March, in which he referred to the threats made by the guerrillas "against the Salvadoran people" who are preparing to vote on Sunday, 19 March.

"I believe that the time has come to denounce those who claim to embrace the cause of peace and democracy but, in the hour of truth, unleash terror and hostility against those who only want to exercise their rights," Arias added.

Arias said that "all the FMLN could have gained with its acceptance of elections instead of weapons as a means of struggle has been negated by its threat to smear the polling stations with blood if the people vote."

"Guerrilla leaders are not acting in good faith if, on the one hand, they admit that violence and terrorism are not the way to attain power, while on the other hand they threaten to use gunpowder and gunfire against those who vote," Arias said.

In his message, Duarte asked Arias to ask the FMLN to respect the Salvadoran people's "peaceful" resolve to vote.

Arias responded: "I cannot but empathize with your worries that there will be violence against the people on Sunday." He added that "no one can prevent the people from voting. That, in my opinion, would be the most evil of crimes, a crime against sovereignty."

On Sunday, 1.8 million Salvadorans must elect the successor to Christian Democrat Jose Napoleon Duarte from among more than seven presidential candidates.

The FMLN has declared a transportation "boycott" as of 0000 today throughout El Salvador, has unleashed a series of attacks against economic and military targets, and has announced that on 19 March it will attack the polling stations in order to prevent the elections.

## El Salvador

### Public Transportion 'Paralyzed'; Power Outages

*PA1603143089 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1310 GMT 16 Mar 89*

[Report by Oscar Venancio Ramirez]

[Text] Ninety-eight percent of the country's public transportation was paralyzed early today. In San Salvador, millions were walking to work because of the guerrilla's forced stoppage prior to the presidential elections. Very few vehicles are circulating in the city.

In addition, at least 90 percent of the country was without energy. According to YSKL sources, 95 percent of the capital city had no electric power because of the guerrillas' constant sabotage actions, which the rebels have increased in the past few hours.

It was reported the guerrillas sabotaged at least eight 115,000-volt lines, leaving vast sectors of the country without this vital service.

It was also noted that in Santa Anita, Mercedes Umana, Usulutan Department, Lempa River Hydroelectric Executive Commission work teams repaired one 115,000-volt line yesterday. This line was sabotaged again last night.

Vast sectors of the eastern area are without energy. According to official reports, the guerrillas sabotaged the lines that supply energy to this capital. These lines are located in San Martin, Mezapa, and San Rafael Cedros in the country's paracentral area.

### Further on Stoppage

*PA1703043389 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0302 GMT 17 Mar 89*

[Report by Alfredo Villareal]

[Text] Hundreds of San Salvador residents awoke this morning to find that no public transportation was available to take them to their workplaces. This situation resulted from the transportation stoppage imposed by the guerrillas in San Salvador and throughout the country as of 0000 on Thursday. Those left without transportation were forced to get rides in pickup trucks and vehicles provided by the Army.

Both the Armed Forces and police have greatly stepped up their vigilance to counteract the terrible situation triggered by the guerrillas' sabotage of the electricity system. By blowing up power towers, the guerrillas have managed to decrease electrical service by 70 percent.

Buses, taxes, and other public vehicles were not out due to the fear that they would become targets for the guerrillas, who are trying to hamper the 19 March presidential elections. The situation looks especially bleak because the nation's interdepartmental bus terminals have also obeyed the stoppage. Reports from the eastern terminal, which covers northern and eastern El Salvador, indicate that none of the bus drivers dared drive their routes. In addition, the western terminal reported that only one bus left for Santa Ana.
[Begin recording] [Villareal] At what time did you leave Santa Ana?
[First bus driver] At 0715.
[Villareal] At what time did you get here?
[First bus driver] At 0900.
[Villareal] How much are you charging?
[First bus driver] Two colones and 30 centavos, as usual.
[Villareal] Is that the normal fare?
[First bus driver] Yes, it is.
[Villareal] Did you see anything unusual while you were on the highway?
[First bus driver] No. Everything is calm.
[Villareal] How many passengers have you driven here to San Salvador?
[First bus driver] About 165.
[Villareal] What is your route?
[Second bus driver] Route 306: San Salvador-(San Joel)-Santa Rosa de Lima.
[Villareal] Were you planning to drive the bus today?
[Second bus driver] No. I had been warned about the stoppage. I myself would not have minded driving the bus today, but this is the owner's only bus. What if the guerrillas burned it? I would then have nothing to eat.
[Villareal] Are bus drivers getting paid these days?
[Second bus driver] No. [end recording]

Reports also indicate that all car traffic from Central America into El Salvador has been stopped at the border formed by the Amatillo and Anguiatu rivers.

Meanwhile, the Army has implemented its walker plan to safeguard traffic on the highways in San Salvador and throughout the country. To make up for a lack of military units in western El Salvador, the Army organized a convoy to transport travelers to La Paz, San Vicente, San Miguel, and La Union Departments. The convoy was protected by Cavalry Regiment members. The passengers in the convoy spoke of their need to travel in this fashion, adding that they trusted the convoy despite guerrilla warnings to abstain from riding in government vehicles.
[Begin recording] [Villareal] Where are you going?
[Passenger] To San Miguel.
[Villareal] How does it feel to travel in this truck?
[Passenger] Actually, we feel good, because we are on our way.

[Villareal] Are you afraid anything will happen on the highway?

[Passenger] No. We are not afraid at all. [end recording]

This has been the guerrillas' first transportation stoppage this year. It falls within a framework of violent actions in San Salvador and throughout El Salvador, preceding the presidential elections. The first day of the stoppage has been characterized by a paralyzation of 100 percent of the vehicles on the country's main highways, such as we have observed at km 44 of the Pan-American Highway.

**Transport Stoppage Success, Palace Attack Lauded**
*PA1703005889 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0010 GMT 17 Mar 89*

[Text] The walker plan has failed. The operation using 80 percent of the Armed Forces to stop the nationwide transportation stoppage of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] has failed.

Beginning at 0000 today, Thursday 16 March, El Salvador's main highways were empty. The media have reported that a total of 98 percent of transportation was paralyzed throughout the national territory. The FMLN has defeated General Vides Casanova's walker plan.

The reports received by Radio Venceremos refer to the Pan-American Highway, the coastal highway, the military highway, the Metapan-Santa Ana highway, the San Salvador-Santa Ana Freeway, the northern trunk highway, and the Sensuntepeque-Cabanas highway. The report says: transportation stoppage, a complete success. This is a transportation stoppage with the people's participation.

Moreover, FMLN urban commandos carried out a bold attack against the presidential palace and El Zapote garrison in San Salvador, inflicting casualties on the presidential security forces and El Zapote garrison. Radio Venceremos is waiting for the official report from our urban commandos on this bold attack on the presidential palace and El Zapote garrison, which was carried out despite the thousands of soldiers, elite forces, helicopter gunships, tanks, and the useless police force, which was out in full force. Mocking thousands of members of the regime's special forces, our urban commandos reached the very presidential den and El Zapote garrison, headquarters of the CITFA [Armed Forces Telecommunications Instruction Center]. Radio Venceremos salutes our urban commandos in the capital, who have recently carried out various actions.

### Attorney General Restricts Media Activities

*PA1603235089 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 2316 GMT 16 Mar 89*

["Official communique" issued by Attorney General Jose Roberto Garcia Alvarado to the Salvadoran media; date and place not given]

[Text] The Attorney General's Office, in accordance with the constitutional powers vested in it to safeguard legal principles and defend the interests of the people and the state, and at the request of the Central Electoral Council and the Armed Forces High Command, finds it imperative to request that all media, as of this moment, refrain from publishing messages or communiques inciting the people to refrain from exercising their right to vote on Sunday 19 March, election day.

This also implies that they must refrain from rebroadcasting any message that seeks to disrupt public order, morale, or the provisions of the electoral code and other legal regulations that expressly establish the citizens' duty and right to freely elect the authorities of the Republic through a direct and secret vote. All media are subject to legal action if they do not fulfill this request.

The Attorney General's Office invites and urges all citizens to vote in this Sunday's elections, because by exercising that free and democratic expression they will demonstrate, not only to the Salvadoran people but to the whole world, their firm democratic desire and total rejection of terrorism and human rights violations by groups that seek to deny them their right to live in peace, justice and liberty.

The Attorney General's Office also asks the Armed Forces High Command to offer all of its assistance and protection to the citizens to defend and preserve their integrity. God, union, and liberty.
[Signed] Attorney General Jose Roberto Garcia Alvarado

### Rebels Score Restrictions

*PA1703011389 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0015 GMT 17 Mar 89*

[Report by unidentified speaker from "Radio Farabundo Marti's Programming Center"]

[Text] Hello. We are in contact with you again, comrades of Radio Farabundo Marti. This is a report received here by our monitoring team in the programming center. Attention: We have reports that a communique was issued this afternoon by the Attorney General's Office to the news media. Attention: A communique was issued by the National Republican Alliance's [ARENA] Attorney General's Office—the Attorney General's Office that harbors assassins—to the news media. The news media are threatened so they will not accept advertisements from the people's organizations.

Attention: ARENA's Roberto Garcia, of the Attorney General's Office that harbors assassins, issued a communique this afternoon to the news media forbidding them to accept advertisements from the people's organizations. The ARENA demagogue has issued the communique under the pretext that it is following instructions from the Armed Forces High Command and the Central Electoral Council, but the truth we want to report to the people is that the ARENA attorney general's communique is a direct threat from [Defense Minister General Carlos Eugenio] Vides Casanova to the news media, so they will not accept information from the people's organizations.

We urge the news media, the men of the press, to demand respect for their professional rights. We urge them to demand the right to freely inform the people and their right to be objective. We strongly denounce the demagoguery of ARENA's Roberto Garcia and the Armed Forces High Command's maneuver. They are cowards. They cannot possibly issue direct threats to the news media so they are using Roberto Garcia's office as a front to threaten the news media.

With this denunciation of Vides Casanova's maneuver, we urge the people's organizations and democratic forces to demand their rights to freely state their thoughts. We urge the news media to demand unrestricted freedom and defend their fundamental right to allow all expressions of the people's thoughts.

That is all for the time being. Back to our brothers in the trenches.

### Rebels Issue Warning to Voters, Electoral Boards

*PA1603224489 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish 1555 GMT 16 Mar 89*

[Communique issued by the Anastacio Aquino Paracentral Front Tactical Insurrection units; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] This is a communique from the [words indistinct] Anastacio Aquino Paracentral Front units [words indistinct] to the Salvadoran people, considering that:

1. Yesterday the government [words indistinct] a negotiated solution to the conflict by refusing to participate in a dialogue (?or negotiation) to end the war. On the contrary, the government has intensified the repression against our people.

2. The government and political parties refused to postpone the elections until 15 September because of partisan and personal interests—because everyone was trying to get a greater portion of the benefits by exploiting our people—and because of the fear that during free elections free of fraud, oppression, or deceit people would freely express their will and allow the true representatives, the revolutionary vanguard, to triumph.

3. [Words indistinct] the causes that generated the war have intensified and worsened, making war and misery even worse, and making political and oligarchic government officials even richer [words indistinct].

4. The 19 March elections were created by the U.S. Government and the oligarchy in El Salvador to deceive our people and the international community by making them believe that there is democracy in El Salvador when, on the contrary, the only objective of the elections is to continue the war of [words indistinct] against the people.

5. Under the current system, even though the people elected a government that to some extent identified with the people's needs and aspirations, such a government would not be able to take over power because power currently resides at the U.S. Embassy and in the repressive and [words indistinct] Armed Forces, which would immediately stage a coup d'etat and would not permit the trial of the people's assassins.

6. Political parties do not offer any solution to the people's problems and instead only offer to further increase misery, hunger, and death. For example, ARENA has offered to end the war and bring peace, but the [illegible]e they offer is the peace of death one can find in a [illegible]y. ARENA says that the Armed Forces' actions [illegible]s repressive, criminal, and murderous as it is [illegible] If massacres such as the one that occurred in San [illegible]stian are considered insignificant, it means that a government headed by ARENA would be similar to the Adolf Hitler government in Germany and that an ARENA victory would allow the government that sponsored genocide to stay in power, as Ochoa Perez and Roberto D'Aubuisson have said. They would eliminate anyone who tried to do something for the people and anyone with progressive ideas. This means that they would arrest all our students, to whom they would [words indistinct], all our workers affiliated with unions and professional groups, and all our peasants. That would be ARENA's form of peace.

The PDC offers to continue the war, death squads, hunger, repression, and dependence, and to completely surrender our sovereignty to the Yankee imperialists, which it has been doing for the last decade. The bourgeoisie itself has recognized in its newspaper EL NACIONALISTA, issue No 21, year 3, of February 1989, that while 75 percent of children under 5 years of age suffer from malnutrition, the PDC becomes wealthier. Regarding education, while half of the nation's school-age children do not attend school, the PDC boasts of (?spending one million) in propaganda and in (?trips) abroad. The other political parties are mere appendages of these two parties. They are just a group of oligarchic opportunists seeking their own personal gain at the expense of our people's aspirations.

For all the above reasons, we ask our people not to vote on 19 March. We ask our people not to vote on 19 March [repeats itself]. We repeat: Do not vote on 19 March. We know that our people (?are here with us), but so that no doubt remains in the minds of the oligarchic groups [words indistinct] and the poor, who feel enriched by their poverty, we say: If you do not heed our [words indistinct], bear in mind that:

1. All our units are ready to take action [words indistinct]. The puppet Army will be powerless to do anything to prevent it.

2. Departmental and municipal electoral (?boards) and the (?boards) receiving votes have been declared military targets. We repeat: The (?boards) receiving votes have been declared military targets. The board members will be executed by our units during and after the election.

3. Those people who go out and cast their votes, fully aware that our units will be (?patrolling) the voting centers, will do so at their own risk. Our units will not be guilty [words indistinct] board receiving votes, since they have already been warned.

4. [Words indistinct] the enemy with full force. [Words indistinct] we thus ask the population not to be on the streets. Our soldiers will be taking over the streets to fight the enemy all day and all night on 19 March.

For the above reasons, we repeat: Do not vote on 19 March. For the above reasons, we repeat: Do not vote on 19 March [words indistinct].
[Signed] Anastacio Aquino Paracentral Front Tactical Insurrection Units
We live to fight! We fight to win! Revolution or death, we will win!

## Mayors Again Warned To Resign

*PA1703012589 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 2356 GMT 16 Mar 89*

[Communique issued by the FMLN Political and Military Joint Directorate on 16 March in Chalatenango]

[Text] [Passage indistinct]... mayors, municipal councils, electoral boards, and boards receiving votes in this department, bearing in mind that:

1. The FMLN presented a political proposal to the government, the Armed Forces, and the political parties, hoping to turn the elections into a contribution to peace. This proposal was rejected by those who wield institutional power in our country.

2. While the government, the Armed Forces, and ARENA and the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] have rejected our peace proposal, our people and their organizations have publicly and (?peacefully) given our proposal their support.

3. The Duarte administration and the Armed Forces have heard our people clamor for our proposal to be accepted. Yet they have increased their repression

throughout the cities and the countryside, hoping that their terrorist violence will quell the people's voice, a voice demanding a political solution to the conflict.

4. The current elections are nothing more than part of the U.S. counterinsurgency plan to legitimize a government that will continue waging a war against the people.

The FMLN political and military directorate in Chalatenango communicates the following:

1. We ask the municipal electoral boards and the vote-counting boards in all of Chalatenango Department not to play this belligerent election game. They must therefore resign before 19 March. They must publicly and truly resign. Otherwise they will be promoting their commitment [words indistinct] and therefore must be prepared to face the consequences of whatever measures the FMLN deems necessary.

2. We ask all mayors and municipal council members who have not publicly tendered their resignations [words indistinct]. If they do not do so, they will have to face the consequences of promoting the counterinsurgency plan.

3. We ask the Chalatenango Department governor to also tender his resignation publicly. He manipulates the mayors into secretly maintaining their positions. In addition, he is an instrument of the dictatorship's counterinsurgency policy.

For peace, democracy, and survival, let us all defeat the 19 March elections! Revolution or death, we will win! [Signed] FMLN Joint Political and Military Directorate Chalatenango, 16 March 1989

### Some Election Officials Resign

*PA1703040589 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0325 GMT 17 Mar 89*

[Text] Party representatives at three voting tables resigned today—3 days prior to the elections—because of FMLN threats. The voting table representatives at El Transito, San Rafael Oriente, and San Jorge, San Miguel Department said they resigned because the guerrillas threatened to kill them if they did not.

Last week the FMLN threatened party representatives at voting tables, which the rebels said they would regard as military targets.

### FMLN Meets Spanish Diplomats in Mexico

*PA1703004789 Paris AFP in Spanish 2353 GMT 16 Mar 89*

[Text] Mexico City, 16 Mar (AFP)—The FMLN did not establish a new position after meeting in Mexico yesterday with Spanish Ambassador Pedro Bermejo. The diplomat conveyed to the guerrillas the Salvadoran Government's request that the elections "be peaceful," diplomatic sources revealed today.

At the meeting in the Mexican capital, Bermejo told the FMLN about a proposal to observe a truce this Sunday to allow the elections to be held peacefully in that Central American country.

The FMLN, on its part, reiterated its repudiation of the elections under existing conditions and warned that it cannot promise that there will be no fighting if it is attacked by the Army.

The FMLN proposed 30 days ago that the elections be suspended for 6 months so that they can be held under different political, social, and military conditions. The proposal was supported by the political parties but rejected by the government and Armed Forces.

Spanish Embassy sources said that they do not dismiss the possibility of another meeting with the guerrilla representatives before the elections, but added that this will depend on whether the FMLN responds to the Salvadoran Government's request.

### FMLN Releases 15, 16 Mar Battle Reports

*PA1703032189*

[Editorial Report] (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador at 0000 GMT on 17 March carries approximately 45 minutes of battle reports read by the station announcer. The first report, the announcer says, indicates that at 0100 on 16 March, the FMLN attacked Armed Forces Engineers' Military Detachment, DMIFA, bases stationed at a cooperative along the coastal highway with homemade artillery, rocket launchers, and rifles. In the attack, the announcer continues, two cooperative dormitories were leveled. In addition, DMIFA troops were reportedly dislodged in the hour-long clash, during which they suffered 30 casualties, including wounded and dead. The report, the announcer says, indicates that as part of the maneuver the FMLN entered the city of Zacatecoluca in La Paz Department from four directions, attacking DMIFA troops and Treasury Police near Santa Rosa and San Simon. The FMLN are also said to have erected barricades on the highway near San Juan Nonualco.

The Radio Venceremos announcer goes on to report that at 0100 on 16 March another guerrilla unit staged an attack on the National Guard in Tecoluca, La Paz Department, with homemade artillery and rifles, and that the station is awaiting a complete report on the maneuvers in San Vicente and La Paz Departments. Meanwhile, he says, guerrilla and militia units in La Paz Department blew up two electricity poles in the Barrio Nuevo area and erected barricades in the vicinity of the San Luis ranch in Tecoluca, San Vicente Department.

The station announcer then reports on the situation in the paracentral region. He says that at 2300 on 15 March, guerrilla units attacked "enemy" positions in Santa Clara, San Vicente Department. Within 10 minutes, the FMLN units reportedly had the town under

control and, in the ensuing shootout, "the enemy" wounded two civilians. The "enemy," the report indicates, fled from Santa Clara in total disarray, while the FMLN units seized 940 cartridges, mines, ammunition belts, and other war materiel. The FMLN reportedly also blew up three power poles in San Esteban, San Vicente Department and, at 0600 on 16 March, proceeded to blow up two electricity poles and two electricity towers in San Sebastian.

Venceremos' announcer then reports on the situation in the Jiquilisco area, where the FMLN has inflicted casualties on the Army. He says that at 0200 on 16 March FMLN units attacked a unit of the 6th Infantry Brigade in Joya Pilar. Within minutes, he says, the Army fled in total disarray, carrying several wounded soldiers and leaving a soldier's body behind. The FMLN reportedly seized one 60-mm machinegun with 4 cartridge belts, one M-16 rifle with a large quantity of ammunition, knapsacks, and a M-72 rocket launcher. The FMLN reportedly withdrew after the mission without any problem whatsoever.

A report, the station announcer says, is now coming in from the Modesto Ramirez Central Front on Guazapa Hill. It indicates that on 16 March an FMLN unit carried out an operation that consisted of the following:

"1. At 0220, a guerrilla unit besieged and attacked an enemy position in San Jose Guayabal, Cuscatlan Department, where a National Guard company and a Soriano Battalion company from the 1st Infantry Brigade were stationed. Our forces penetrated the town from several directions and dislodged National Guard forces from two of their positions and controlled the city's outskirts; the siege lasted until 0500. As a result, it has been confirmed that one national guard was killed, but so far the Soriano Battalion's casualties have not been disclosed. The report also indicates that the FMLN distributed propaganda in the town and its outskirts.

"2. At 0000, militia units erected six barricades in the following way: two barricades on the street between San Jose Guayabal and San Martin; two barricades on the street between San Jose Guayabal and Suchitoto; one barricade on the street between Montepeque, Oromontique, and Oratorio de Concepcion; and another on the street between Oratorio and San Jose Guayabal.

"3. At 0230, FMLN militia units downed two electricity posts between San Jose Guayabal and Oratorio de Concepcion near Montepeque hill. This sabotage left San Jose Guayabal, Oratorio, and Onacatepeque in darkness. Revolution or death, we will win!"

The Radio Venceremos announcer goes on to report that at 2200 on 15 March FMLN units attacked Army positions in the Delicias de Concepcion cemetery and managed to penetrate the towns of Osicala, Carolina, and San Antonio del Monte. In Delicias de Concepcion, he says, the Army failed to respond to the FMLN attack, while Army troops in Osicala lent psychological support to the besieged troops by firing 81-mm mortars, which did not in any way harm the FMLN units. In a simultaneous attack, the report states, another FMLN unit entered Osicala from its northeastern side; however, when the Army troops became aware of the FMLN's presence, they fled in disarray. Yet another FMLN unit, the report continues, attacked Morazan Battalion troops in La Montanita and Osicala, and Radio Venceremos is awaiting a report on the number of casualties from these attacks.

Meanwhile, the station announcer says, at 0600 on 16 March a guerrilla unit attacked a National Guard position in Estanzuelas, Usulutan Department. The attack reportedly was carried out with rifles and grenades, with the end result of one Army troop killed and another wounded. While this attack was going on, the announcer says, another FMLN unit in the same area erected barricades and blew up two electric posts on the Pan-American Highway.

On 16 March, at km 90 of the Metapan-Santa Ana highway—Radio Venceremos' announcer continues—the FMLN successfully ambushed the 2d Infantry Brigade, inflicting nine casualties on that force. Venceremos now has a report from the Anastasio Aquino Paracentral Front which states, the announcer says, that on 16 March at 0200 FMLN guerrilla and militia units controlled a stretch of the Ilobasco-Sensunteque highway in Cabanas Department. They sabotaged two electric posts, erected a barricade, distributed propaganda, and urged the people to reject the election farce scheduled for 19 March and to struggle for peace with justice and freedom.

At 0500, the report goes on, another militia and guerrilla unit controlled a stretch of the Sensuntepeque-Ilobasco highway near Los Chorritos, where they harassed a 2d Military Detachment unit controlling the area. The number of Army casualties is unknown. Simultaneously, the report indicates, the guerrillas distributed propaganda in the Zacamil area. At 1230, another guerrilla unit reportedly attacked a 2d Military Detachment unit that was patrolling Zacamil, inflicting one casualty on the detachment.

The report from the Aquino Front, the announcer states, also indicates that land transportation on the Ilobasco-Sensuntepeque highway is totally paralyzed.

The station also reports an "attack on the civilian defense post in Canton Azacualpa, Ilobasco, Cabanas Department at 2345 on 15 March," adding that the civilian defense forces fled and the rebels seized seven M-14 rifles.

A report from Tejutepeque reveals that "on 16 March, members of the guerrilla and clandestine militias units attacked and evicted National Guard members in Cerro La Cruz." The information also reports an attack with RPG-7 rocket launchers on National Guard positions in southern Tejutepeque.

Further reports state that "a guerrilla group attacked the National Guard command post at the Jiboa Mill," causing three casualties.

Likewise, a preliminary report indicates that at 0300 on 16 March rebel forces attacked the National Guard barracks in Jucuapa with artillery fire and destroyed La Esperanza Mill.

The rebel station also carries a report sent from Morazan Department that states that "at 0000 on 16 March guerrilla units raided the town of Divisadero, Morazan Department, and attacked 4th Military Detachment positions."

In addition, "at 0200 on 16 March, guerrilla and militia units seized control of Puerto Parada, Usulutan Department," evicting paramilitary forces, damaging the command post, sabotaging several transformers and power poles, and seizing ammunition clips, uniforms, and other war materiel. Another report sent to the radio station indicates that clandestine militias and guerrilla units attacked Canton Cantora, San Miguel Jurisdiction, and sabotaged two power poles.

Furthermore, a "complete report of the attack on National Guard positions in Jucuapa" reveals that "at 1620 on 16 March, the National Guard barracks in Jucuapa were attacked" despite the security measures implemented by a company of the Arce Battalion, which was positioned in Loma La Cruz. The information adds that La Esperanza Mill was also attacked by the rebel forces, which "destroyed the main building, warehouse, offices, vehicles, machinery, and 20,000 quintals of coffee beans." The National Guard forces reportedly sustained three casualties during the action.

A report sent to Radio Venceremos indicates that "on 16 March, members of the Leon Battalion captured Juan Bautista Chicas, president of the community board in Canton San Diego, San Antonio de las Moscas Jurisdiction." The report concludes by stating that Chicas was flown by helicopter to the 3d Infantry Brigade barracks.

**Chalatenango Commander Comments on Attack**
*PA1603130389 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 15 Mar 89*

[Report by Guillermo Valencia in Chalatenango]

[Text] The Salvadoran Army today asserted that it caused at least 18 FMLN casualties during an attack against Military Detachment No 1 in Chalatenango. Colonel Ivan Reynaldo Diaz, commander of the military garrison, said 18 rebels died during the attack, which began last night and ended early this morning. Col Diaz said the Army only sustained two dead and four wounded during the attack, which was repulsed by the units on watch at the garrison, located on the outskirts of Chalatenango. The military commander termed the FMLN attack strong, beginning at 2300 yesterday and ending at 0600 today. The military commander of Chalatenango also indicated that the guerrillas sustained 3 dead and approximately 20 wounded during a criminal attack on Tejula, in northern El Salvador.

[Begin recording] [Diaz] I am Military Detachment No 1 Commander Col Ivan Diaz. Yesterday, at approximately 2300, a group of terrorists tried to enter the town from several points but was met by our defensive positions on the outskirts of the city. Their attack was quite strong, but it was stopped by our soldiers. As a result of the attack, we seized one Soviet-made AK-47 rifle, one M-16 rifle, and one M-79 grenade launcher. We also seized assorted ammunition—mostly Soviet-made—explosives, equipment, and documents, which are very important for us. As a result of the action, nine terrorists died on the outskirts of the city. During the search and combing operations carried out afterwards, our special units found nine more corpses. This gives us a total of 18 dead terrorists.

This terrorist action was aimed at the civilian population, because they mainly damaged several houses and terrorized the population during the night. We toured the area early in the morning and could ascertain the spirit of the people of Chalatenango, because everyone was up and at their jobs very early. Many people have been asked if they are scared by the terrorists' attitude; they have stated their firm decision to participate in the elections on 19 March.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] Armed Forces casualties?

[Diaz] Yes, we deplore the death of two soldiers and the wounding of four others, who are being given medical attention at the military hospital.

[Reporter] How many [words indistinct]?

[Diaz] Approximately 200.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Diaz] They are located in that general area, mainly in Guarjila, San Antonio Los Ranchos, and Las Vueltas. However, they come from different cities in the department to carry out this type of action.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Diaz] No, at 2300. [end recording]

Only minor damage was sustained in the rear section of the Army detachment's garrison. Some private houses and Chalatenango's municipal offices also showed some minor damage this morning caused by the FMLN.

## ARENA Accuses Government of Staging 'Fraud'

*PA1603234789 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2105 GMT 16 Mar 89*

[Text] San Salvador, 16 Mar (ACAN-EFE)—The Salvadoran right-wing ARENA today accused the government of making it difficult for Salvadorans to massively appear at the voting booths in next Sunday's presidential elections.

ARENA presidential candidate Alfredo Cristiani charged that the Central Electoral Council (CCE) and the ruling PDC, "are staging a fraud" so ARENA "will not win the election in its first round."

Cristiani, a favorite among the voters according to polls, also charged that the PDC intends to use government vehicles to provide their followers with transportation to the voting sites.

Meanwhile, the Salvadoran guerrillas today began a transportation stoppage and have increased their sabotage actions against the electricity system to hamper the normal course of the elections.

It is predicted that Salvadorans will have to either walk or use government vehicles or small trucks to get to the polling stations.

Cristiani, accompanied by ARENA vice presidential candidate Francisco Merino, said that he opposed the CCE's decision to place the polling stations in San Salvador's parks and streets.

Several days ago, the CCE decided to establish six polling stations in San Salvador, where 35 percent of the Salvadoran population—approximately 1.8 million people—will cast their votes.

The Army, alleging security reasons, has asked the CCE to change the voting sites and to place the polling stations in safer areas.

In a letter addressed to the CCE, the Army requested that the voting sites be changed to the sites used during last year's legislative elections. These sites include the international fair grounds, located in southern San Salvador.

ARENA maintains that the CCE hopes to discourage a massive voter turnout by establishing new voting sites so that Cristiani will not win the elections in their first round.

## Chavez Mena Predicts 'Massive Voter Turnout'

*PA1503205189 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 14 Mar 89*

[Report on statement by Christian Democratic Party presidential candidate Fidel Chavez Mena in Cojutepeque, Cuscatlan Department; date not given]

[Text] Over the weekend, Fidel Chavez Mena appealed to the people to defend the democratic process by voting on 19 March to help achieve peace.

[Begin Chavez recording] The basic message is that the people must go out and vote to ensure a free and democratic process and so that the people can clearly express their will. I am certain that we will win. We are going to vote and we are going to win.

We are certain that, despite adverse conditions on election day due to some boycott that the violent leftists might carry out, there will be a massive voter turnout. The people are motivated and they are going to vote for us. We are convinced of that. [end recording]

The PDC presidential candidate urged the people to reject violence and to challenge the FMLN by voting en masse.

## UCA Poll Projects No First Round Winner

*PA1603173589 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 16 Mar 89*

[Excerpts] The Public Opinion Institute of the UCA [Central American University] this morning challenged reports appearing in a newspaper to the effect that Alfredo Cristiani [ARENA presidential candidate] will reportedly win the elections by obtaining 65 percent of the vote. A Jesuit priest, Ignacio Martin Baron, who is the institute's spokesman, said that according to recent polls there will be no winner in the first round of voting. Father Martin Baron disclosed the results of the latest poll conducted by the university from 1 through 14 March. The results indicate that none of the political parties will win the first round of voting. Of all the parties, ARENA and the PDC have the highest percentages. ARENA's Alfredo Cristiani is projected to receive 26.2 percent of the vote, compared to the PDC candidate, Fidel Chavez Mena, with 12.9 percent. The Democatic Convergence candidate, Guillermo Ungo, follows with 4.2 percent of the projected vote. [passage omitted]

In addition, the UCA analysis says that a high percentage of those polled—over 40 percent—would either not reveal their voting preferences or had not yet decided for whom they will vote. [passage omitted]

### Social Groups Call for 'Political Solution'

*PA1603233589 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1200 GMT 15 Mar 89*

[Text] San Salvador—More than 1,000 members of the Permament Committee for National Debate in El Salvador, supported by the main national churches, have called for a political solution to the war and have rejected the claim that Sunday's presidential elections could end the 9-year war, which has claimed approximately 70,000 lives.

Reverend Edgar Palacios, coordinator of the committee composed of 59 social organizations, pointed out that the presidential elections will shut the door to peace and will not solve the country's main problem, which is the war.

In downtown San Salvador's civic plaza, representatives of labor, religious, cooperative, humanitarian, professional, and student organizations called for dialogue and a political solution to the civil war.

The group carried out political and cultural activities and shouted slogans such as: Let us join efforts against the murderers; and satirical songs such as one that went: People, let us go to the slaughterhouse; people, let us go to the cemetery, sung against the background of the music of an ARENA political advertisement.

University leader Vinicio Penate said that he rejects the elections because they cannot meet the main goal of the people, which is to end the war and to bring about peace.

The guerrilla proposal to turn the elections into an instrument for peace was rejected by the majority parties, the government, the Armed Forces, and the U.S. Administration. Therefore, these elections are meant to continue the war, Penate asserted.

The FMLN proposed to the government that the elections be postponed until September to negotiate guarantees leading to massive and clean elections free of military intervention.

Penate predicted that there will be no final winner in the 19 March elections because the people already blamed ARENA and the ruling PDC for blocking the path to peace. The candidate who wins the elections will face very serious political problems. He will face a worsening of the political crisis because he will be assuming the Presidency surreptitiously, and he will have to face the need to solve the conflict immediately, he concluded.

### Czechoslovak Paper Interviews Shafik Handal

*AU1503173089 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 14 Mar 89 p 7*

[Report on interview with Jorge Shafik Handal, member of the FMLN General Command, by RUDE PRAVO Latin America correspondent Bohuslav Borovicka: "The Right Has Chosen War; Shafik Handal on Situation in El Salvador"—in Managua, date not given]

[Text] Managua (Our Special Correspondent)—El Salvador had reached a crossroads and we were able to choose. We had proposed a path to peace, but the right has chosen war. It rejected our proposal of 23 January and, instead of negotiations, it declared a war. This was said by Shafik Handal, member of the FMLN General Command, in an interview with RUDE PRAVO. We had no option but to accept the challenge, which means that the fighting, which has been going on for almost 10 years, will continue.

The Salvadoran guerrilla commander noted that the FMLN's proposal is not a collection of demands, but the basis for negotiations, from which a mutually acceptable solution benefiting the country would ensue. We do not demand that the government hand over power to us. We had proposed that elections be postponed and prepared in such a way as to make them truly free and democratic. In such a case, we would pledge to unreservedly respect the result of the elections.

However, the government's first reaction to our proposal was rejection. However, when Washington described the document as interesting and worthy of attention, the government hesitated a bit and shifted the burden of the decision onto the political parties. The moment it seemed that agreement was not to be excluded, representatives of the Armed Forces declared that, should the current president remain in office after 1 June (on that day a newly elected head of state has to take up the post), the army would stage a coup d'etat.

This declaration was not directed against President Duarte, because he repeatedly stressed that he does not intend to stay in office longer than prescribed by the Constitution. Behind the scenes there is the competition between Christian Democrats (PDC) and the Nationalist Republican Alliance (ARENA). The former have the government and the Armed Forces in hand, the latter the parliament. In the case of a postponement of the elections, the parliament—that is, ARENA—would elect a provisional president, and the Christian Democrats are afraid of their future position.

Regarding the prospects for further developments, Handal said that the immediate effect of the appeal to destroy the FMLN issued by Colonel E. Ponce, chief of the Armed Forces General Staff, has come about. The guerrillas have launched an extensive military offensive, the impact of which will also be felt in the capital. They announced that they will proclaim a halt to all transportation as of Wednesday [15 March], which—together with attacks on the power grid—will lead to the country's economic paralysis. We asked the population to boycott the elections, the member of the FMLN General Command went on. We are aware that many people—afraid of repression—will go to the ballot boxes, but we ask them to cast invalid votes. Although we expect electoral fraud, even so we are convinced that the number of invalid votes will affirm that people are against the continuation of the war and are for a peaceful solution.

We have not abandoned the ideas contained in the proposal of 23 January, Handal stressed. In view of the situation that has been forced upon us, at the moment we must abandon hope for an early peace. However, we are determined to continue our endeavor, to repeat the present proposals to the new government, and to continue to seek a path to a democratic and peaceful solution.

Our stance is not an expression of weakness; during the years of struggle we have learned to know the enemy perfectly and to defeat him, despite the fact that he has behind him the economic and military strength of the United States. We believe that, after all, victory and democracy can also be achieved through armed struggle. However, we unequivocally prefer negotiations, because the war has already cost 70,000 lives, and therefore we consider it necessary to prevent further useless bloodshed.

What—in case of a future success—is the FMLN's idea of the further development of the situation? Above all, it will be necessary to agree on a cease-fire and begin without delay negotiations which would create conditions for permanently ending armed fighting. Laying down our arms is out of question. We are not naive, and we know that by doing that we would put ourselves at the mercy of the enemy, which would lead to a massacre. It will be necessary, above all, to change the nature of the military and security forces and their structure, and unconditionally subordinate them to civilian power like any other institution. This is the main prerequisite for a genuine and lasting democratization, said Shafik Handal, member of the FMLN General Command, to RUDE PRAVO, at the conclusion of the interview.

## Soldiers Testify in San Sebastian Case

*PA1503231189 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 14 Mar 89 pp 3, 72*

[Text] Three soldiers accused of murdering 10 peasants in San Sebastian, San Vicente Department testified in court yesterday that the peasants died in a clash with guerrillas.

Major Mauricio de Jesus Beltran Granados was among those who testified. He, another officer, three noncommissioned officers, and four soldiers were brought before the judge of San Sebastian to testify about their involvement in the crime.

Major Mauricio de Jesus Beltran, Second Lieutenant Arnoldo Vasquez Alvarenga, and a noncommissioned officer all testified that the 10 peasants, including 2 women, died in a 30-minute clash with subversives, which also resulted in the wounding of one soldier.

"I did not directly participate in the events. My subordinates reported that they had been ambushed and that one soldier was wounded. On the day of the incident, I heard two bombs explode near the site of the incident, followed by a skirmish that lasted at least 30 minutes," Major Mauricio de Jesus Beltran Granados testified.

The Armed Forces forced Major Mauricio de Jesus Beltran, Second Lieutenant Arnoldo Vasquez Alvarenga, subsergeants Jorge Alberto Tobar Guzman and Rafael Rosales Villalobos, Corporal Hernan Ayalar Arias, and soldiers Francisco Ponce Ramirez, Fermin Cruz Castro, Jose Carlos Fernandez and Jose Alfredo Mendez Beltran to testify about the crime.

It was reported that the rest of the accused will testify today. The San Sebastian judge will decide later if there is sufficient evidence to hold the accused.

The Armed Forces High Command has reaffirmed its decision to fulfill its duty within the framework of absolute respect for human rights. Therefore, if the accused are found guilty, they must be punished to the full extent of the law.

## Ochoa on U.S. 'Pressure'

*PA1503195689 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 15 Mar 89*

[Report by Mauricio Funes]

[Text] A few minutes ago we tried to broadcast statements by Salvadoran Colonel Sigifredo Ochoa Perez, but we had some technical difficulties. We will now broadcast Ochoa's statements regarding the San Sebastian massacre. He believes that the Armed Forces were pressured by the United States and that the officers involved in the case could be merely scapegoats.

Col Ochoa demanded an in-depth investigation of the San Francisco Canton, San Sebastian Jurisdiction incidents in which 10 peasants were killed in late September 1988. Ochoa Perez said that the results of the Army High Command investigation might not reflect the truth. Ochoa questioned the guilt of those soldiers and officers who are being tried at the San Sebastian courts in connection with the deaths.

[Begin recording] [Ochoa] I believe that the investigation must be fair. Foreign pressure should not force us to seek scapegoats. We must find those responsible for the murders. Something bad happened; there is no question about that. The problem is that we must find the guilty parties. We cannot just accuse some people only to satisfy those who want to see heads roll and who are the ones instigating this whole affair.

[Funes] Do you believe that the men being tried are not guilty of the massacre?

[Ochoa] We would have to investigate the matter. I hope that they are not simply being used as scapegoats to close the case. We must be fair. We would not be doing justice if we punish innocent people. I hope I am wrong, and I hope there will be fairness. We cannot punish a colonel or a major only because someone wants to see the heads of a colonel or a major roll. [end recording]

Ochoa Perez did not explain the basis of his doubts. He limited himself to saying that the Army High Command's investigation was under pressure from the U.S. Government. Moreover, Ochoa said that on Wednesday the commission investigating government corruption will have enough evidence to prove that there was a diversion of funds from INCAFE [National Coffee Institute] to the political campaign of PDC presidential candidate Fidel Chavez Mena.

Ochoa added that the commission has photocopies of receipts proving that a helicopter was rented for the PDC campaign and paid for with INCAFE funds. It remains for the commision to find out who ordered the diversion of those funds, Ochoa said.

### Arrest Warrants Issued

*PA1603191789 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 16 Mar 89*

[Report by Alfredo Villareal]

[Text] The First Instance Court in San Sebastian, San Vicente Department has issued arrest warrants for nine members of the Army, including one major and one lieutenant, who were charged with killing peasants in the area of San Francisco last year.

Based on the evidence gathered during the investigation, Judge Ellis Alcides Blandique of the First Instance Court in San Sebastian, San Vicente Department issued arrest warrants for Major Mauricio de Jesus Beltran Granados, Lieutenant Antonio Vasquez Alvarenga, and seven more soldiers of the 5th Infantry Brigade. They have been charged with murdering 10 peasants in September of last year in San Francisco Canton. More than 60 witnesses confirmed the participation of the soldiers in the crime, while an Army officer testified that Maj Beltran Granados ordered the execution of the peasants because they belonged to a guerrilla cell that trained people in the area in the use of weapons.

Maj Beltran Granados, former commander of the 5th Infantry Brigade's [word indistinct], denied the charges Monday at the court in San Sebastian, stating that the 10 peasants died during a guerrilla ambush.

The investigations that ended with the arraignment of the nine soldiers was conducted by a commission of reknowned military officers and by an investigative commission supported by the Army's High Command.

## Honduras

### Azcona Discusses Contras, IMF Negotiations

*PA1603135789 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1208 GMT 16 Mar 89*

[Report on interview with President Jose Azcona by Danilo Altunez; date and place not given—passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] [Altunez] "Mr President, the United Nations is about to approve the formation of the international peace force that will watch over the border between Honduras and Nicaragua. Does Honduras still agree with that UN decision?"

[Azcona] "We requested the formation of that peace force last September. We will welcome that force. We have repeatedly requested the creation of that force."

[Altunez] "It has been said that the United States is asking your government to let the contras stay in Honduras another year."

[Azcona] "No, we were not asked such a thing. We have talked about humanitarian aid for the contras. We do not oppose the delivery of humanitarian aid to the contras. On the contrary, we believe that aid will benefit Honduran security. We stated that in the document signed in El Salvador. We agreed to make an exception for the delivery of the humanitarian aid. That aid does not violate any commitment and does not go against our interests."

[Altunez] "Is the document signed in Costa del Sol, El Salvador still valid then?"

[Azcona] "Of course. We are preparing the plan [for dismantling the contras], and we will submit it to the other Central American presidents. If there are no changes before 13 and 14 May and if the other presidents agree with those dates, we will [word indistinct] that plan."

[Altunez] "Was the Honduran Government's decision to meet with the contra leaders in Washington criticized? What can you tell us about that?"

[Azcona] "No, on the contrary. We must talk with the contra leaders, because we are thinking of demobilizing the contras. We made that commitment. We have to talk with the contras. How are we going to demobilize them without agreeing on so many things? Many agreements will have to be reached in the future. We must talk with the contra leaders.

"The Sandinist government will have to meet with the contra leaders, too, as well as with the opposition leaders. We will be working closely with the Sandinist government. We will have to meet with all groups to meet our commitments. We cannot reject dialogue. Dialogue is the only way to find a solution to our problems."

President Jose Azcona announced extensive meetings with the country's producers to inform them about the current negotiations with the World Bank and the IMF.

[Azcona] "We will inform producers about the IMF and World Bank proposals and about our counterproposal. We want to reach some kind of national consensus before reaching an agreement with those international

organizations. If we do not reach a national consensus and therefore cannot reach an agreement with our creditors, we will then have to wait for the next president to reach an agreement."

[Altunez] "When will you meet with producers?"

[Azcona] "Today. We will give them details on the IMF and World Bank proposals and on the Honduran position. Our position is not a formal one. IMF and World Bank representatives will return after Holy Week. We will continue talking to see if we can reach some kind of agreement with them. I believe it is best for Honduras to reach an agreement both with the IMF and the World Bank. We must bear in mind the limits of the measures we can take, because we do not want those measures to cause disturbances.

"That is why I am telling you that we will seek a national consensus. We want the measures we take to be approved by all the interested parties."

As for the national dialogue, President Azcona said:

[Azcona] "I believe the first meetings were good, but we realize it is not easy to reach a consensus when workers', peasants', and employers' interests are at stake. Sometimes I see unity among those groups, and that pleases me, even if they unite to criticize the government. It is good to see that groups at different ends of the economic scale—although that does not mean they are enemies—can agree on certain things."

**Paper Praises Brady Plan, Notes World Reaction**
*PA1603225489 San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 15 Mar 89 p 7*

[Editorial: "Bush and the Foreign Debt"]

[Text] U.S. President George Bush's initiative to reduce the Latin American foreign debt by 30 percent has been welcomed by the debtor countries. Wealthy West European countries also commented favorably on it.

A report released in Brussels (Belgium) on 14 March says that the EC welcomes President Bush's initiative because it is a significant contribution to reducing the tension that the so-called Third World debt causes. That debt has already reached astronomical figures.

In a joint declaration issued after their monthly meeting, the 12 EC finance ministers enthusiastically emphasized that Washington's new debt policy incorporates several ideas already suggested by some EC nations.

The EC finance ministers expressed optimism about U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady's proposal. Brady announced that his country will promote a 30-percent reduction of the Third World debt using IMF and World Bank resources.

A written statement on the issue reveals that "the ministers discussed Mr Brady's suggestions with interest. Those suggestions are oriented toward improving the strategy for handling the debt. The ministers agreed that the suggestions are worth studying."

According to a REUTER dispatch, an important EC official said: "People are very pleased to see that the United States is promoting a debt reduction and the strengthening of the role that the IMF and the World Bank must play within that strategy."

The statement also says that "the key to securing lasting economic growth in the debtor countries—which is essential to solving the debt problem—is the implementation of extensive economic reforms in those countries.

Spanish Finance Minister Carlos Solchaga told a journalist that "what has happened (with the Bush plan) is very important; it is a turning point."

The EC finance ministers said in general that the voluntary reduction of the debt or of the service on the debt—studying each case on an individual basis—can play an important role in the success of poor countries' economic plans.

Korea, China, Japan, and other industrialized countries had similar reactions toward the Bush-Brady plan.

There is true euphoria in Mexico and Brazil, the two most indebted Latin American countries, because 30 percent of what they owe represents thousands of millions of dollars.

Reaction has been mixed here in Honduras, apparently because Honduran experts are not as expert as we thought and have been unable to explain to the Honduran people what we can expect from the new U.S. policy.

In any case, if the reduction is applied to the total of our foreign debt, we would be saving 2 billion lempiras. If—as some say—the reduction only applies to the short-term commercial debt, we would be saving approximately 62 million lempiras. In either case it is not bad, because, after all, we are getting that aid for free.

The rest of the debt must be paid off, and we will have the opportunity to renegotiate more flexible terms of payment.

There is still hope, therefore. The question is: Will anyone have some kind words for the hateful U.S. imperialists and for the despised Uncle Sam?

### Liberal Party, Government Officials Meet

*PA1303205489 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 9 Mar 89 p 9*

[Text] Honduran President Jose Azcona Hoyo last night reiterated that the Liberal Party as a whole supports presidential candidate Carlos Roberto Flores. Azcona, speaking as a member of the Liberal Party, also expressed his support for Flores.

Azcona Hoyo recalled that the Liberal Party's internal struggle has ended and that, according to the party's by-laws, all members must support the winning candidate. However, Azcona added that "we are giving our support not because it is established in the by-laws, but because we are liberals."

Azcona made these statements last night during a meeting with the Liberal Party's presidential candidate, members of the Central Executive Committee of the Liberal Party [CCEPL], and high-ranking government officials.

Flores stated that one of the reasons for the meeting called by the CCEPL was to allow the candidate and the government officials to express their views on various issues.

Flores noted that the members of the Liberal Party who hold public office, as well as all active party members, are responsibile for "strengthening the Liberal Party's economic capacity" to carry out work involving organization and documentation.

## Nicaragua

### Ortega: U.S. Money Should Aid Demobilization

*PA1703030289 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0216 GMT 17 Mar 89*

[Text] Managua, 16 Mar (ACAN-EFE)—Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega said today that if the U.S. Congress approves more aid for the contras, it must go toward the demobilization of the anti-Sandinists based in Honduras. Ortega said that Nicaragua "cannot agree to the approval of more funds to maintain the contras for 11 months in Honduras," as the Bush administration requested today.

At a meeting with church authorities at Managua's Nicaraguan Episcopal Church at which African Archbishop Desmond Tutu was present, Ortega asked the Bush administration to adopt "a more reasonable and respectful" position toward the agreements reached at the Central American presidential summit.

The Nicaraguan head of state suggested that if the U.S. Congress approves more funds, they should be earmarked for the implementation of the agreements reached by the Central American presidents at the San Salvador summit held on 13 and 14 February. "We will only approve of this humanitarian aid if it will be used for the programs to demobilize the contras presently located in Honduran camps," the Sandinist leader insisted. The region's presidents committed themselves at their meeting in El Salvador to drafting a plan for the demobilization of the rebels within a 90-day period in exchange for the democratization of Nicaragua. "Those people will need money whether they decide to return to Nicaragua or to remain in Honduras, pending the implementation of the agreements for the demobilization of the contras," Ortega explained.

Ortega flatly rejected any aid to the contras to "promote the war effort," which, in his opinion, "has caused a great sacrifice for Nicaragua." "Only humanitarian aid is acceptable here," he added.

The president noted that the pardon of the 1,894 former guards, who will regain their freedom tomorrow, is aimed at "strengthening peace." Ortega said that he pardoned the former guards because doing so amounts to "a powerful weapon to counter the war," and he noted that without the "revolution's defensive capability, there would not have been any pardon." The Sandinist leader committed himself before the presidential summit in El Salvador to releasing the former Somozist guards, who have been held in Nicaraguan prisons for 10 years.

### Commmentary Discusses U.S. Aid for Contras

*PA1503191489 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 14 Mar 89*

[Text] The request for $54 million in aid for the contras, twice as much as the previous amount disbursed by the White House, seems to be part of a strategy to keep the contras alive for use as an instrument of pressure to ensure that Nicaragua complies with the democratization process.

If that is the strategy the Bush administration is going to pursue regarding Nicaragua, they are going to have great difficulty in untangling the spinning top, given that political conditions and circumstances are geared toward finding a peaceful solution. First, the Central American governments and the international community favor the demobilization or relocation of the contras and demand that the United States provide funding to achieve that goal. The region's deputy foreign ministers will meet today in New York, with the endorsement of the United Nations, to define the mechanisms for on-site verification. Why then does Bush not tune into the same wavelength? Is he willing to repeat the same foreign policy mistakes made by Reagan? We hope not.

Meanwhile, the Bush administration knows it must seek a bipartisan consensus for its foreign policy decisions. However, the Congress' liberal Democratic wing insists that the money should be used for repatriation and that pressure should be exerted through diplomatic and economic means.

Nevertheless, the administration insists on doing the opposite even though it is not as popular and does not have the consensus Reagan had in the United States, because even the Senate is in the hands of the Democrats now.

The most serious problem is that if Bush insists on maintaining the contras, he would be promoting a continuation of the military conflict and political upheaval in all of Latin America. This would mean the new administration did not learn the lesson and will commit a second mistake over the same problem. This would be so because of the irrational nature of imperialism in its effort to recover its lost hegemony, even among its allies. It is failing to understand that new winds are blowing throughout the world and that the big-stick policy is dead.

Hopefully, they will be prudent this time around. Otherwise, they would not only be making a second mistake but facing another defeat in Nicaragua and the world.

## Ortega Denies Role in La Tablada Attack

*PA1603225389 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1918 GMT 15 Mar 89*

[Text] Managua, 15 Mar (ACAN-EFE)—Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega today denied that the Sandinist government was involved in the 23 January attack on the 3d Infantry Regiment at La Tablada, Argentina.

The Nicaraguan president stated to ACAN-EFE that he cannot officially deny anything because "the Argentine Government has not formally accused the Nicaraguan Government, simply because there is no reason for this."

"This type of accusation has been made since 1979, when the Nicaraguan revolution triumphed. It was said that all types of people in Nicaragua were involved, but the truth is that there is no Nicaraguan connection with those events," Ortega asserted.

Argentine Interior Secretary Ricardo Gil Lavedra [title as received] told a Buenos Aires radio station today that many of the men who attacked the barracks had gone to Nicaragua "because of their connection with Enrique Gorriaran Merlo, the terrorist."

He added that Gorriaran Merlo "went to Nicaragua to advise the Interior Ministry, to organize the police," following the Sandinist revolution's triumph in 1979.

The attack on the La Tablada barracks resulted in the death of 29 terrorists, 9 soldiers, and 2 policemen, plus 100 wounded.

## Opposition Claims on El Salvador Accords Cited

*PA1603200489 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 14 Mar 89 pp 1, 12*

[Article by Roger Suarez Martinez]

[Text] Miriam Arguello of the Nicaraguan Conservative Party, Agustin Jarquin Anaya of the Social Christian Party [PSC], and Guillermo Potoy of the Social Democratic Party yesterday gave President Daniel Ortega a document stating that 1 month after signing the El Salvador accords, the government has not yet complied with its commitments.

Sources who were present at the meeting say that Ortega told his opponents that the El Salvador accords oblige him to listen to the opposition's views but not to meet their demands.

He added that Nicaragua's steps toward democratization will help the Honduran Government comply with its commitment to relocate Nicaraguan Resistance troops who are currently in Honduran territory.

The opposition delegates were astonished by Ortega's veiled threats when he said that "the FSLN is set on socialism. If there is a social explosion and looting of diplomatic stores ensues, private stores will also be looted. In such a case, we would lead the masses, not repress them."

The same sources who were at the meeting said that Ortega seemed very tense and pressured, perhaps because of the country's political, economic, and social situation. The government informed the opposition that it would be invited to a meeting next Friday that will also be attended by Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo and OAS Secretary General Joao Clemente Baena Soares.

A communique released by the Presidency of the Republic states that for the sake of promoting and strenghtening the national dialogue, President Daniel Ortega Saavedra has called a meeting of all political parties and organizations. However, Rafael Solis, government spokesman for these talks, said that the Friday meeting will be held solely for briefing purposes and that the meeting will only offer a summary of what has been discussed in bilateral meetings with opposition parties.

The government insists on holding a national dialogue through bilateral meetings. However, a majority of the opposition has said that any accord must be reached with the opposition as a whole.

The document handed to President Daniel Ortega by the three opposition parties states that "distrust has increased, especially among the population who have reservations about the initiatives currently promoted by their government, because they consider such initiatives to be maneuvers to continue avoiding commitments."

The document signed by Agustin Jarquin, Miriam Arguello, and Guillermo Potoy states: "The elections announced for next year, to which you agreed in principle with the democratic presidents of Central America, demand a legal restructuring that will allow a democratic and fair election. This calls for the discussion of the needed amendments to the Constitution and Election Law."

The PSC headed by Agustin Jarquin separately handed Ortega another document containing 23 points pertaining mainly to amendments to the Electoral Law.

As soon as the Presidency communique calling for a multilateral meeting on Friday was announced, the opposition and the general public thought that this was the beginning of a national dialogue; but Commander Rafael Solis' statements afterward that this would be "only a briefing" destroyed those expectations.

Solis said that there would be no call for a dialogue "since that would mean backtracking on the progress we have already achieved as a result of these talks," while the 14 opposition parties have said that "any accord must be reached with the opposition as a whole."

## Panama

### Attorney General Confirms Delvalle Warrant

*PA1603135589 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 16 Mar 89 pp 1, 6*

[Report by Roberto R. Rodriguez]

[Text] The Attorney General's Office has confirmed that an arrest warrant has been issued against former President Eric Delvalle—who has been charged with usurping public funds—while the attorney general investigates with the International Police (INTERPOL) the withdrawal of more than $65 million belonging to the Panamanian Government that was frozen by the Reagan administration and deposited in a bank account in New York.

Attorney General Carlos Villalaz confirmed yesterday his office "has ordered" the arrest of all individuals implicated in drawing government funds in violation of the Constitution and laws.

Villalaz said the Attorney General's Office has opened a "penal process" against Delvalle, Juan Sosa [Delvalle's Panamanian ambassador to Washington], Garcia de Paredes [appointed consul to New York by Delvalle], and other Panamanian citizens who are currently abroad, adding that they have been summoned through INTERPOL.

Villalaz said there are still no results, "but we are investigating." He noted that there is no specific information concerning the amounts withdrawn from the Panamanian funds by those who are usurping public funds in the United States.

MATUTINO asked Attorney General Villalaz about an investigation being conducted by the U.S. Congress regarding monthly withdrawals of more than $750,000 from Panamanian banking accounts and $65 million missing from the funds frozen by the Reagan administration.

The reports were confirmed by U.S. congressional sources and by the General Accounting Office, the agency in charge of conducting investigations for the U.S. Congress, which revealed that funds belonging to the Panamanian Government are missing.

### FDP Statement on 'Insurrection' Anniversary

*PA1603181289 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 16 Mar 89 p 1-A*

[Statement issued by the FDP General Command on 16 March]

[Text] At 0600, 1 year ago today, the 4th Company of the Urraca commando group stifled the attempted insurrection by the "rebels" [insumos] planned by Leonidas Macias, Nicolas Gonzalez, Jaime Benitez, Cristobal Fundora, Aristides Valdonedo, Luis Samudio, Jose Maria Serrano, Humberto Macea, Francisco Alvarez, Milton Castillo, Alberto Soto, Renato Famiglietti, Luis A. Gordon, Edgardo Falcon, Geronimo Guerra, and Luis Montenegro. These people—fearing for their own personal interests and submissive to the doctrinary penetration of the U.S. Southern Command's 470th Group—rebelled against the hierarchic order of military discipline by subjecting, frightening, and compromising their subordinates, and, above all, violating the sacred priniciple of respecting the guards, sentinels, and duty guards to their last rank.

The General Staff—the chiefs of military zones, garrisons, and combat units of the FDP—remember this day as a lesson and a strengthening of the institutional principles that constitute honor, loyalty, courage, comradeship, strength, friendship, and subordination. They present it as an example to the future military generations who, in the the changeover to the future generation, will be exposed to the unpatriotic persons' treacherous ambushes during the future military generations' struggle and along their path of advancement toward the year 1999 in a sovereign fatherland.

Congratulations to the 4th Company of the Urraca commando group and to all the commanders, troops, and officers who can walk into the garrisons today with their heads held high, aware that they stifled the attempted insurrection of "rebels" without staining their hands with blood. 16 March 1989, FDP General Command.

### Esquivel Approves of Election Observers

*PA1703014489 Panama City Circuito RPC Radio in Spanish 1713 GMT 16 Mar 89*

[Statement by former Vice President Roderick Esquivel; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] The opposition spirit of the Panamanian people increases every day. Even polls show that those who were undecided in the past support the opposition today; therefore only an insignificant number of people support the government.

There is an inequity because all election resources are completely in the hands of the government, which uses its resources with great arrogance, not caring to hide the fact that political propaganda is being placed on vehicles belonging to the Panamanian Government, which means they belong to us, too. The vehicles do not belong to the PRD [Democratic Revolutionary Party] or to the PALA [Labor Party]. For example, the PALA, which has been granted the administration of the Public Works Ministry [MOP], places its banners on MOP tractors.

When they do some repair work—which, by the way, should have been done a long time ago and which was postponed until now to impress the people—they make it appear as if it were a political favor to citizens instead of admitting that it is an overdue service, which should have been provided a long time ago. I have seen all these inequities.

Without a doubt, the presence of international observers is beneficial, because most of these observers are not stupid. The government is used to traumatizing the public and has always thought that Panamanians are unaware that the government is not doing its work well.

### Need for Observers Denied

*PA1703043089 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 16 Mar 89 p 4*

[Editorial: "Panama Does Not Need Snoops"]

[Text] Any dictionary defines a meddler as an individual who has not been invited to a specific place but who puts his nose into things that are none of his business anyway. In other words, he is an intruder, a snoop.

Our people, with their characteristic Caribbean know-how and that touch of genius for giving a name to everything, describe such an individual as a "busybody."

A "busybody" is precisely that individual who keeps meddling everywhere. We even have a more derogatory term: a "stool pigeon" [sapo], which exactly conveys the revulsion we feel for those individuals who, in all honesty, meddle all over the world while they have at home the same problems that they are trying to solve elsewhere.

Some of these alleged "observers" of the Panamanian elections have arrived in our country. We wonder if they are qualified, bearing in mind the traditional principle that one must practice what one preaches.

For example, we are concerned that some of these individuals come from nations that are experiencing problems, which, thank God, are nowhere near ever happening in our country. However, they plan to give us guidelines on what we should do here. It would be wise to remind them, at any rate, that they should try to establish order and to give advice within their own countries before trying to give us lessons here.

Without minimizing the virtue of their "good intentions," we feel that our people do not need any investigators. Moreover, we have not asked for them. One thing we need is to be respected as the sovereign nation that we are. We need no intervention in our domestic affairs, just as we do not to intervene in the affairs of other nations. We need to be left alone so that we can build our democracy in peace according to the needs of our people.

We would appreciate very much if this is what these conceited busybodies did, because they contribute nothing positive and hurt the dignity of respectful peoples, which is what we are.

## Carter Center Group Visits To Discuss Elections

### Meet COLINA Candidates

*PA1503123989 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 14 Mar 89 pp 1, 24*

[Unattributed report: "President of All Panamanians Will Be Carlos A. Duque"]

[Text] A team from the Carter Center (international organization headed by former U.S. President Jimmy Carter) met yesterday with the candidates of the National Liberation Coalition (COLINA).

The U.S. group, which was headed by Ambler Moss, former U.S. ambassador to Panama and current general dean of the School of Higher Studies of the University of Miami, talked extensively with Carlos Duque, Ramon Sieiro, and Aquilino Boyd [COLINA candidates for president, first vice president, and second vice president, respectively] and discussed with them the elections to be held in Panama on 7 May.

Harmony and understanding regarding the various aspects of Panama's situation prevailed at the meeting.

Presidential candidate Carlos Duque emphatically explained to the Carter Center representatives the extent of U.S. aggression against Panama, which has succeeded in damaging the country's structure and hurting all Panamanians alike.

Sieiro and Boyd noted that Panama wishes to hold free and honest elections and that all Panamanians aim to perfect their democratic system.

Finally, all the COLINA slate members answered questions from their U.S. guests. Duque stressed he will act as president of ALL Panamanians and that he is determined to achieve true national reconciliation.

### U.S. Embassy 'Behavior' Cited

*PA1603190589 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 15 Mar 89 p 2*

[Text] After "welcoming all those observers wishing to come to Panama to share our people's joy during the upcoming elections," the Legislative Assembly issued a resolution urging the distinguished visitors to "take a close look at the behavior of the U.S. Embassy" in the election process.

A draft resolution submitted to the Legislative Assembly yesterday by Legislator Rigoberto Paredes calls on all observers to notice the participation of the U.S. Embassy "in the election process, openly guiding and supporting opposition groups with whom it has reached agreements and made commitments that endanger the future and sovereignty of Panama."

"Panama's Legislative Assembly also tells all observers it would be of great interest for the rest of the world if they, as observers, do not forget to note the elections will be taking place despite U.S. interference in Panama's internal affairs."

The resolution talks about the "devastating effects inflicted on the national economy by the most brutal economic agression unleashed by a big, powerful country such as the United States against a small, economically weak country such as Panama."

[Article is accompanied by a photo of unidentified observers—"some of them appointed by Costa Rican President Oscar Arias and Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez"—with the caption: "These intruders should leave." Photo includes former U.S. Ambassador to Panama Ambler Moss]

### Solis Palma on 'Objectiveness'

*PA1703044489 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0326 GMT 17 Mar 89*

[Text] Panama City, 16 Mar (ACAN-EFE)—Manuel Solis Palma, Panamanian minister in charge of the Presidency, today praised—for its objectiveness—the 3-day investigation carried out by a private U.S. delegation into the upcoming 7 May presidential elections.

Solis Palma stated to ACAN-EFE that the "Carter Center" mission showed more objectiveness in its political evaluation than other missions that have visited Panama to investigate the human rights situation.

The Panamanian leader said the mission not only learned about "one side of the coin" but also about the "aggression" that the United States maintains against the Panamanian people.

Diplomatic relations between the United States and Panama have been at their lowest level since the political crisis began in June 1987.

An OAS Inter-American Commission on Human Rights delegation recently visited Panama and asked the government to investigate an alleged political murder which occurred in 1985 and to guarantee honest elections.

The "Carter Center" delegation met with political opposition and government leaders to discuss the possibility of inviting international observers to the May elections.

The delegation met with Solis Palma and members of the Strategic Military Council, the highest organization within the Panamanian Defense Forces, whose commander is General Manuel Antonio Noriega.

The "Carter Center" delegation is composed of Venezuelan deputy Miguel Ocque, Costa Rican Parliament member Carlos Monge, and former U.S. Ambassador to Panama Ambler Moss, who was a negotiator of the Torrijos-Carter canal treaties signed by the two countries in 1977.

### Commentary Warns Against Opposition 'Terrorism'

*PA1603205889 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 15 Mar 89*

["Today in the World" segment by Luis Manuel Martinez]

[Text] This week I have been receiving reports from various parts of the country on threats made against PRD groups in an attempt to halt their campaigns.

On Sunday I witnessed a terrorist action from the building in front of the 99 Supermarket in Calidonia. On Central Avenue, a group attacked a campaign caravan supporting Romelia de Pardo and Elias Castillo, who are legislator candidates, with rocks and rotten eggs. After shouting insults and foul language and throwing stones at the demonstrators, the group proceeded to set on fire the buses in which Pardo had transported a group of friends. This marks the beginning of a terrorist escalation by the servilistas [derogatory term used regarding Civic Crusade activists], who have already shown us that they can burn tires and destroy vehicles and traffic lights, but who are incapable of building anything for this country.

We must note that there were people hurt in this attack last Sunday, as reported in the media. We must also stress that the PRD will not give up the rights that the members and leaders of the servile ADOC [Civic Democratic Opposition Alliance] have exercised in large public gatherings.

The guarantees offered in the Electoral Code to all political parties also include the PRD [Democratic Revolutionary Party], PALA [Labor Party], Revolutionary Panamenista Party, Liberal Party, Republican Party, and National Action Party; they include the eight parties that make up the COLINA [National Liberation Coalition]. Interfering with these rights is creating tension and forcing those who are attacked to defend themselves. The members of Omar Torrijos' party are not afraid and will not be intimidated.

If the opposition wants guarantees, it must give guarantees too. If they want freedom of movememt and campaign rights, they must stop removing the campaign posters put up by COLINA parties. The rules of the game must be defined. Those who want to be respected must respect others first.

The terrorist bands created by the ADOC, which received training during the 1987 demonstrations, are a prelude to a political group that has no message for the people; a political group with no historical roots that represents a return to 1967 and to the oligarchy that seeks power for the sake of enjoying it with what is known as Washington's okay.

No PRD member will stay off the streets now. Those who were involved in other activities will also participate in the caravans. There will be daily demonstrations in various neighborhoods or communities in Panama. That human tide will not be stopped by fear. Furthermore, no one can be afraid of those who belong to groups such as the Chamber of Commerce and other enterprises, whose leaders seek refuge at an embassy as soon as an arrest warrant is issued against them, joining the group of tourists who travel with all expenses paid and stay at hotels all over the world spreading venom against this country. Their record is full of slanderous campaigns financed and supported by the United States. They are the same ones, so they will not worry those who are doing their duty by supporting their party and promoting the Duque, Sieiro, and Boyd presidential slate.

We must warn that terrorism, which is foreign to the Panamanian people's principles, will not disturb the PRD followers and much less the great political conglomerate of the COLINA.

### Opposition Willing To Meet With Noriega

*PA1503040789 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 13 Mar 89*

[Interview with Guillermo Ford, Civic Democratic Opposition Alliance second vice presidential candidate, by unidentified reporter; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Ford] We, the Civic Democratic Opposition Alliance ticket members, toured Veraguas Province, which will be a very important province in the upcoming elections. We got a first-hand report of the Veraguas people's great desire for change. These people think that if the elections are pure, the Panamanian people's votes will honestly and accurately reflect how they feel. We will thus be able to change the current political system, which is 20 years old and completely worn out.

[Reporter] Your party, specifically Alfredo Ramirez, underlined the need for a dialogue with General Noriega prior to the elections. What do you have to say about this?

[Ford] That is true. It is worthwhile to clarify the opposition's position on this. We have never opposed a dialogue with Gen Noriega and the Panama Defense Forces [FDP] staff. But we do not want to talk with some intermediary who does not have true power. We think the dialogue should not be used to discuss the conditions for the elections, because those have been established by the Constitution and the Electoral Code, but it should be used to discuss government and opposition proposals, particularly the Civic Crusade's, to set this country on the course toward democracy, justice, and freedom.

I must stress, however, that we do not want to discuss the elections with Gen Noriega and the FDP staff. Among other topics, we would establish the role that the FDP would play from this moment on, because the FDP has been involved in party politics. According to the opposition, this is a flagrant violation of the Constitution.

[Reporter] Where would this meeting with Gen Noriega take place?

[Ford] Anywhere, except FDP headquarters. We would be represented by someone who could truly represent the opposition.

### Editorial on MOLIRENA Stance on Dialogue

*PA1403192589 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 12 Mar 89 p A-4*

[Editorial: "A New Call for Dialogue Among Panamanians"]

[Text] Since June 1987, the beginning of the political and economic crisis that has undermined the Republic's social and moral foundations, the Panamanian people have been polarized into two large groups. On the one side are those who support the government, and on the other are those who belong to the so-called opposition. Taking a position of compromise is unacceptable, as the name-calling between the two groups has made clear. Those on the progovernment side are labeled lackeys, while those in the opposition are called traitors. Those epithets have caused the deepest division ever between our people. In our opinion, that is why a dialogue among the opposing sides has not been possible. All attempts at a dialogue have failed due to the haughtiness, arrogance, and selfishness of both sides.

Now, a new ray of hope has appeared on the turbulent Panamanian political scene. In a statement to LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA, Alfredo Ramirez, president of MOLIRENA [Nationalist Liberal Republican Movement]—one of the opposition parties—has noted the need for a dialogue between the opposition and General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander in chief of the Panama Defense Forces [FDP], prior to the upcoming elections. Ramirez has broken the barrier the opposition had created in response to the FDP commander's invitation to a dialogue.

As the only condition, MOLIRENA's president mentioned the need to prepare an agenda for those possible talks. In his statement, Ramirez expressed some doubts that the upcoming elections would be clean. He also speculated on issues that could be detrimental to Panamanian democracy. There is no doubt that a statement by a mature and competent leader such as Ramirez brings a ray of hope to our country's turbulent political situation. His statement paves the way for a possible dialogue through which an agreement could be reached between the parties struggling for power in our country. Under no circumstances should this new opportunity be overlooked.

The agenda proposed by the opposition leader could be set in advance by representatives from both groups who are capable of making the crucial decisions our people have long been waiting for. Later on, for our people's sake, a dialogue could be held in an attempt to establish—separate from the current electoral regulations—the rules of the game for those highly significant elections. The Panamanian people want to see the political problem solved. They are tired of being dragged into hunger and misery. For the next elections to be truly democratic, it will be absolutely necessary to reach a prior agreement that will guarantee total freedom to vote, honest vote counting, and absolute respect for the results. Otherwise, the expected results will never be achieved. In that sense, neither the government nor the opposition should hesitate for a moment to reach an agreement. Only in this way will it be possible to have democratic guarantees for the elections.

Refusing to hold those talks would show indifference toward the grave problems affecting the nation. Evading that patriotic responsibility is tantamount to continuing to batter our people. Elections could be the best and fastest way to solve our problems. Panamanians supporting the groups struggling for power should replace personal and party selfishness with the most sacred interests of the people, who now fear death and destruction. The proposal by MOLIRENA's leader could pave the way to a broad national agreement.

**Human Rights Group Issues Communique on Visit**
*PA1303022489 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 12 Mar 89 p 12*

[Communique issued by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights in Panama on 3 March; "published with the support" of the National Council of Private Enterprise; the Panamanian Human Rights Committee; the Panamanian Chamber of Commerce, Industries, and Agriculture; the Association of Panamanian Industrialists; the National Civic Crusade; the Panamanian Association of Business Executives; and the Panamanian Chamber of Construction]

[Text] 1. During its 74th regular session in September 1988, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (CIDH) agreed to ask the Panamanian Government to allow a visit to that country to learn about and examine the human rights situation, as established in the American Convention on Human Rights that was signed by Panama. A few days later, the Panamanian Government granted permission for the visit.

2. The CIDH's visit, which began on 27 February, concludes today. The CIDH delegation was composed of commission President Marco Tulio Bruni Celli, CIDH members Ambassador Oliver Jackman and Leo Valladares, Acting Executive Secretary David Padilla, and Executive Secretariat members Jose Miguel Vivanco, Bertha Santoscoy, and Gloria Sakamoto.

3. During their stay in the Republic of Panama, the commission met with Panamanian Government authorities: the president of the Republic, the commander in chief of the Panama Defense Forces, the foreign relations and justice ministers, the presidents of the Supreme Court and the Electoral Tribunal, the attorney general, and the president and members of the Legislative Assembly. Likewise, the commission met with representatives of the various parts of Panamanian society: human rights groups, political parties, the media, the Catholic Church, and business, union, labor, humanitarian, and social organizations.

4. While in Panama the commission also visited some jails: the Modelo Jail, Coiba Penal Island, the David Jail, the Women's Rehabilitation Center, and Ward 31 at the Santo Tomas Hospital, where some prisoners have been admitted for medical treatment. During these visits, the members of the commission gathered information on the Panamanian penal system: the physical condition of the establishments and the health, assistance, food, and legal status of the prisoners. Likewise, the members of the commission met with jail authorities and also met privately with some prisoners.

5. It is normal procedure during a visit for the commission to receive all those who may wish to report on or present charges of human rights violations. For such purposes it is customary for the host governments, on this occasion the Panamanian Government, to ensure that all persons and organizations who wish to meet with the commission may do so without obstacles or reprisals at the time of the visit or after the commission has departed. In this manner, the CIDH heard reports from persons who spontaneously wished to make statements to the commission.

6. During the course of the visit, especially during their meetings with government authorities, the CIDH made some suggestions and requests:

6.1 Regarding the murder of Panamanian citizen Hugo Spadafora, Resolution 25/87, dated 23 September 1987: The CIDH reiterated its request that the Panamanian Government order a thorough and impartial investigation to determine responsibility and punish the guilty parties. Likewise, the commission reiterated its recommendation that the Panamanian Government accept the CIDH's jurisdiction in this case;

6.2 In recent years, and during its visit to Panama, the commission has been receiving many reports about alleged human rights violations such as torture, ill-treatment, harassment, illegal arrests, trial delays, the nullification of writs of habeas corpus, the holding of prisoners incommunicado for a long time, and the seizure of the private property of business or professional organizations. The commission informed government representatives of these reports during the present visit. The commission told them that it trusts that Panamanian authorities will immediately order the prohibition or correction of such practices that violate the rights mentioned in the American Convention on Human Rights;

6.3 The commission has repeatedly stated that full respect for human rights is an indispensable prerequisite to elect legitimate government authorities. In this regard, the commission feels that the election process that will end with the 7 May elections is an excellent opportunity to overcome Panama's current political difficulties;

6.4 The commission feels that minimum conditions for an election process must include the full and unrestricted exercise of the following rights:
a) Freedom of expression
b) Freedom of assembly
c) Legal guarantees
d) Personal freedom

The commission particularly feels that the government must guarantee the impartial work of election organizations, which must include the participation of the various groups and organizations involved in the Panamanian political process; the preparation of accurate voter lists; equal access to advertising and the media; and the planning and implementation of measures to safeguard the purity of the election process, such as to guarantee the right to vote to the greatest number of citizens; to prevent people from voting more than once; to conduct a clean vote whose results are truly reflected in the appropriate documents; to prevent mistakes in the vote totals; and to proclaim the names of those who were truly elected. In sum, to hold a free, universal, and enlightened election process and respect its results in accordance with the American Convention on Human Rights;

6.5 Likewise, the commission expressed its concern to the government authorities about the closing of certain media, such as the newspapers LA PRENSA, EL SIGLO, and EXTRA; the weekly QUIUBO; Channel 5 [Panama City Panavision Television]; Radio Mundial; and Radio Continente. The commission demanded the reopening of these media as soon as possible to permit full public expression and as an essential factor to guarantee the legitimacy of the election process.

7. During its visit the commission gathered abundant information for the preparation of reports that must be drafted with the greatest objectivity on the human rights situation in Panama. The CIDH, as is its practice, will make the corresponding follow-up on the human rights situation in Panama.

8. Finally, the commission wants to affirm that, following repeated requests to the government authorities for authorization to visit the—currently shut-down—LA PRENSA installations, the government, at the last minute, rejected such authorization. The commission vigorously protests this incident, which is a violation of the existing agreement with the Panamanian Government in the sense that the commission would be free to visit the places it deemed pertinent and which were relevant to carry out its mission.

9. The commission thanks the people, the government, and other Panamanian institutions for the friendly reception and cooperation it received in the accomplishment of its mission as the main protector of inter-American human rights.

## CRITICA on U.S. Envoy's Trip Cancellation

*PA1303164789 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 11 Mar 89 pp 1, 8*

[Excerpt] In light of the condemnation and repudiation expressed by Chiriqui Province residents following the announcement that U.S. Ambassador to Panama Arthur Davis would visit the San Jose International Fair, and out of fear of a physical attack, the U.S. diplomat decided to cancel his visit to David.

In a 10 March ACAN-EFE dispatch datelined Panama City, the fair organizers "announced that the U.S. ambassador had canceled his visit" to the fair where the playing of the U.S. national anthem and the raising of the U.S. flag had been scheduled.

In its Thursday issue, CRITICA reported that the proud and nationalist people of Chiriqui had announced that they would not allow such an outrage against Panama to take place. They said that they would not allow the U.S. flag to be raised or the gringo national anthem to be played at the fair because they consider this another offense to Panama's national dignity and an open mockery by denounced U.S. Ambassador Davis.

When commenting on the plans Davis and his followers had to raise the U.S. flag and to play the U.S. national anthem at the fair, an outraged Chiriqui resident told CRITICA that the repudiation and condemnation expressed by the people should be a lesson for Ambassador

Davis and his "busybody" followers, who are being told to start minding their own business and to stop meddling in affairs that pertain strictly to Panamanians.

Only recently, and to the astonishment and indignation of the residents of Chorrera, the Christian Democratic Party invited Davis and his little group of followers to raise the U.S. flag and to sing the U.S. national anthem at the Chorrera Fair.

It is not known whether Davis will continue to visit the scheduled fairs throughout the country after seeing the way the Chiriqui Province residents reacted to the announcement of his presence. [passage omitted]

## Commentary Decries Money 'Missing' From Escrow

*PA1503011489 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 13 Mar 89*

["Alert to Citizens" segment read by Julio Ortega]

[Text] Panamanians learned today at breakfast of a report published in THE WASHINGTON POST that says $61 million that belongs to Panama, which has been frozen by the Reagan administration, is missing.

The report, publicized in Panama today, reveals that the mysterious handling of these funds has spurred an investigation by the U.S. Comptroller's Office to determine what happened to that money, which belongs to the Panamanian people.

It should be pointed out that when the Reagan administration took control of the Panamanian people's funds, under its policy of economic aggression, the U.S. Government claimed that the freezing of funds had taken place at the order of Eric Arturo Delvalle, to whom those funds were made available. Former President Reagan never tried to hide the fact that only Eric Arturo Delvalle and Juan B. Sosa had access to those funds, which belong to the Panamanian people. It has always been said that both Delvalle and Sosa—aided and abetted by the Reagan administration—used those funds to finance sedition, treason, and destabilization in Panama, so as to ruin the economy and force people into the streets in despair, to benefit U.S. desires to set up a puppet government that would agree to U.S. plans to remain in Panama beyond the year 2000.

THE WASHINGTON POST report seems to confirm that Eric Arturo Delvalle and his accomplices in treachery have been using the funds frozen in the United States while the Panamanian people suffer hunger, unemployment, and are misinformed by the opposition to make it seem as though Solis Palma's government is to blame for their suffering.

Citizens: Be on the alert. Each minute that passes in the history of Panamanian dignity, which is being written by the people, allows for the uncovering of those responsible for your tragedy; people who, even though they live abroad, profit from your money and steal your wealth.

This report has caused indignation throughout the country. It will be difficult to contain those who, feeling justly indignant, go after property belonging to these traitors in an attempt to recover the funds stolen from the Panamanian people. The sugar mills, businesses, properties, banks, and all of the worldly possessions belonging to these traitors are being watched by the people who, driven by despair, might try to solve their problems by taking the wealth that these traitors have accumulated.

Citizens, the $61 million that has disappeared, with the Reagan administration's criminal complicity, is part of what has been stolen from you, and from those who hope to get your vote on 7 May.

## Panama City Mayor Denies Requesting U.S. Visa

*PA1403194489 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 12 Mar 89 pp A-1, C-10*

[Letter by Panama City Mayor Jilma Noriega de Jurado to Juan Barranco, Madrid mayor and president of the Union of Spanish-American Capital Cities—written in Panama City on 10 March]

[Text] Honorable Juan Barranco, mayor of Madrid and president of the Union of Spanish-American Capital Cities (UCCI):

Regarding international news agency reports that I was denied a U.S. entry visa, I wish to inform you and all the other UCCI mayors that at no time did I make such a request. I have no personal plans to visit the United States, where violence is a fact of daily life, including violence against U.S. citizens themselves. That country holds no attractions for me.

I make that clarification as a way to make Panama's voice heard beyond our borders, where it has been systematically silenced by the United States while that country perpetrates the most ruthless aggression against my country.

I want to go on record as stating those facts. I will be grateful to you if you disseminate this information through the means available to you, because the statements by a certain Mr Redman [State Department spokesman] deepen our conviction that fabrications have become the U.S. Government's ideology and doctrine.

## Noriega Addresses Second Lieutenants' Seminar

*PA1403224789 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 13 Mar 89*

["Excerpt" of speech by General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander in chief of the Panama Defense Forces, at the closing of a seminar for second lieutenants "several days ago"; place not given—recorded]

[Text] Your participation [in this seminar] causes us to reflect. Many of you have just graduated from military schools, academies, or institutions in various places and countries. This seminar.... [changes thought] One of our institution's basic characteristics is finding men who move up through the ranks. These men were recruits in our training programs, and yet without having attended an academy or school, they found within this organization the means to climb to the rank you, who participate in this seminar today, hold. Those men also had the opportunity you had to learn. Each and every one of those men have experience that cannot be found in any book or military institution. For that reason, it is good for you rookies, to learn about our work style, which is different than any other military institution in the Americas.

You have seen in the classrooms that men who have been trained in the field are as mature, knowledgeable, and wise as any graduate from any military institution. This prompts us to reflect that in this institution we have two extremes that—as the Bible says—are Alpha and Omega; the beginning and the end. And there is no other political or social organization in the Republic where this situation is best fostered. If each and every one of you were to analyze your origins, where you come from, where you were born, where you attended grammar school, where you attended high school, where you learned about life, and how you came to this institution seeking an opportunity—some came here to work while others came to get a military education—you can see that from the moment you came here you realized this institution represented a promising career.

Regardless of the normal number of people who drop out, we believe the majority of the men who leave the G-3 [training staff] offices after filling out their paperwork will make it, as the result of the latest promotions indicate. It is there that we see that your assignment to receive an education or to attend a school already constitutes a commitment to this institution. And that is where that evolution I talked to you about comes into play.

Those who joined this institution as the result of the recruitment process have also begun their military careers. There is no reason why those men cannot have the same values, reach the same rank, and enjoy the same opportunities as military academy graduates who have been admitted to this institution.

We see that this organization, our organization, receives men from the ranks and trains them at their garrisons or at the training department. Other students, scholarship winners, are the responsibility of their schools. These schools mold the students according to the customs, traditions, and doctrine of the country where the school is located. We have said this institution—and this is its magic—rejects foreign bodies. Just like when you swallow something, a ball, like when a kid swallows a ball, the ball finds its way out of the body; the body expels it. This institution is like that; it expels foreign bodies. It expels those who do not contribute to its development and those who compromise it. As some former officers have said: No one is fired here. Here at the National Guard, no one is fired, here everyone.... [corrects himself] No, they said: No one is fired from the National Guard, they fire themselves. I believe that statement, said by a man with no military academic training, is still valid. Who has left the Panama Defense Forces without concluding his career? Those who fired themselves. The institution did not pursue them trying to find all their faults. No, they themselves tried to impose their faults on the institution. They tried to impose their own model. They tried to distort the original model, but the original model expelled their model.

This institution is not.... [changes thought] This institution does not have special officers to supervise the lives, actions, and thoughts of each member. Rather, each member, within his unit, within his garrison, within his zone, shows if he is lame or crippled. Each lame person leaves a mark as he walks. It is important to note that the institution—this institution that is your institution—suffocates traitors, neutralizes the lazy, punishes rascals and those who start coups, and shows up the incompetent and the mediocre.

Those actions are not written down anywhere, and there is no court that deals with those men, but if you are the kind of person—as Colonel Justines said—who tries to slip by unnoticed, you can be sure that at some crucial point your camouflage will be stripped away. If you are the kind of person who tries to not make commitments and who does not fulfill your mission, you will unmask yourself, because the majority of people are not like you.

It is good that you know that all those who are above you, all your commanders, everyone with a higher rank, who are part of the exact, necessary, mathematical structure—knowing that the exception makes the rule.... [changes thought] There are leaders among all your zone commanders, garrison commanders, and unit commanders. They did not reach those positions—and some of them are on the General Staff—because there was a raffle. They became General Staff members, they reached those ranks, and they attained the power and the commands they have today because they made contributions.

We thus see that the evolution of our institution involves the past and the rights that one attains through work. We see there is no judge more severe than the troops as a whole. The troops can tell who is a cowardly, lazy, or greedy officer. An officer's constant judge is his troops. That has been proven at crucial times. Troops can observe

their officer and even decide at a given time not to support their officer if they realize their officer will lead them to failure. Troops can remove their own officers.

We can see that you are part of our institution's future. That is your duty today. I am directly addressing the new troops. Today you are at a specific point on the path you will have to travel. I try to use your age to get.... [changes thought] but I see there are officers who are 20, 22, and 24 years old, who will live beyond the year 2000. They will have to accomplish our mission. They will have to remember this first political, military seminar. This seminar is political and military, because in Panama one cannot say: I am a military man and a military man alone. One must be a political-military man. To be a political-military man is not to play politics, but to be a man who behaves politically within a society that is organized by other men.

Our geographic location means that we cannot act the same as Colombia, Venezuela, Peru, Guatemala, El Salvador, Cuba, Nicaragua, or the United States. We cannot act the same because our geopolitical position places us at the juncture of two seas. Moreover, it gives us a position.... [changes thought] Our geographic position leads to a different political position than Peru's or Argentina's. There is no Panama Canal in either Argentina or Peru. No empire is permanently stationed with foreign soldiers in Argentina or Peru. Therefore, we must have another view of history, another view of the doctrine [not further identified], and another view of our final objective. That final objective is the one you mentioned in your declaration [not further identified].

However, your declaration must be deeply imbedded in the concept that the final objective is not lyrical or emotional. Instead, it is a physical objective; it is a tangible objective; it is a down-to-earth objective because it is an earthly, material objective; it is hard fact. You, who will be responsible for commanding the troops in the year 2000 and beyond, will also be responsible for determining whether that army is a Panamanian army or the army of a colony of a foreign empire. [crowd shouts: "Not one step backward!"]

## Solis Palma Opens Fair; Backs Coffee Increases

*PA1203140489 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 0152 GMT 11 Mar 89*

[Speech by Manuel Solis Palma, minister in charge of the Presidency, to open the annual San Jose, David agricultural fair in Chiriqui Province—live]

[Text] First Lady Telma de Solis; Victor Anel Serrano, president of the fair committee; ministers and deputy ministers of state and wives; directors of autonomous and decentralized institutions and wives; Chiriqui Governor Manuel Torres; Father Federico Tartaglia, parish priest of El Carmen Catholic Church; Major Luis Del Cid, chief of the 5th Military Zone; Jose Antonio Sanjur, national fair director; bankers; producers; corregimiento representatives; presidents of civic organizations; visiting international delegates; special guests; exhibitors; ladies and gentlemen:

International Women's Day was commemorated on 8 March in recognition of the self-sacrificing women of all countries. This human group progresses with science and technology and plays an important role in the community and in mankind's present events. I want to begin this speech by warmly greeting the courageous and beautiful Chiriqui women, who also occupy a high position in the local community, the country, and abroad. I hereby express sympathy, appreciation, and love to these women. [applause]

I and the government I represent are very pleased and proud to attend this 34th Chiriqui fair. I am convinced we are attending one of the country's most important events. Agricultural, livestock, industrial, commercial, and handicrafts fairs attest to progress in the nation's most important activity: the development of rural areas, which constitute the country's most authentic, permanent, and constant aspect. It has been said for a long time that Panama must be a commercial country because it is a crossroads. We do not deny the importance of trade and the close relationship between our geographical position and the development of services and commerce. Nonetheless, if commerce and services are not based on the work of the man who tills the land, we will be subjected to the fluctuation of crises and international policy. This does not happen when we develop what is ours and an essential part of the nature of Panamanians.

I believe in the Colon Free Zone and the need to expand it. This expansion, however, does not depend only on our desire and decision but to a large extent on what other countries have and desire. The crises that have occurred in Latin America and other countries have affected the Free Zone more than Panama's domestic problems have. Something similar could happen to the services required of the Free Zone by other countries, whose relations with our country and others could change for political reasons. What we produce, what we can give, what we extract from the soil depends on other countries' crises to a very small extent. Therefore, when we speak about agricultural development and handicrafts, we cannot fail to mention Chiriqui, the most important province in the country's development activities so far. [applause]

I must admit that, through a oversight I cannot explain, I am not familiar with some areas, such as coffee. Until a few weeks ago, I did not know that while we produced 100,000 quintals of coffee 10 years or more ago, Costa Rica produced 600,000 quintals. While we presently produce nearly 200,000 quintals, Costa Rica produces 3 million. This represents enormous wealth for that country. I have also been told their land is not more fertile than ours. The Panamanian Government is at a loss to explain its neglect in promoting coffee growing and

agricultural development in this region, which undoubtedly constitutes a source of great wealth and essential income essential for our country that has not been properly tapped. Therefore, during the remaining portion of my term, I will devote special efforts to promoting coffee growing, particularly mountain-grown coffee, which commands a high price on the international market because of its quality. I hereby invite coffee growers and associations to clearly present what they regard as essential so we will be able to promote coffee growing immediately. Within 4 or 5 years, we will reap the benefits of this policy, which must be implemented without any further delay. Chiriqui and the rest of the country deserve every consideration. [applause]

Raising cattle and the use of milk are other aspects to which we should devote very special attention. The Presidency minister told me a few days ago that other developing countries produce more than 100 varieties of cheese, while we are still producing only 2 or 3. We have been unable to produce cheese with the milk we often cannot sell. This is the kind of thing we have to do with determination to be equal to the efforts of the Chiriqui farmers, the Panamanian farmers in general, and the cattlemen who often do not know what to do with their surplus milk.

Something similar could be said of basic grains and other aspects of national production, in which you constitute a decisive factor in the effort to feed the Panamanian people. This has already been confirmed. At the outset of the national crisis, Chiriqui was equal to the task at hand with its effort, work, and sense of nation and homeland to forge ahead in the historic moment. Today we are here, firmly determined to struggle so our homeland can continue to overcome all difficulties and ensure the best destiny for all its children.

On opening this 34th fair, I want to wish the Chiriqui people, the poor, and the farmers prosperity as a reward for their efforts. I hereby express my deep gratitude to you for having largely saved the Panamanian homeland in its most difficult time. Hail, Chiriqui people. [applause]

## Candidate Duque Speaks at PRD Anniversary

*PA1303140589 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 0238 GMT 12 Mar 89*

[Speech by Carlos Duque Jaen, president of the Democratic Revolutionary Party and presidential candidate for the National Liberation Coalition, on the occasion of the party's 10th anniversary; at the Atlapa Convention Center in Panama City—live]

[Text] Thank you. Fellow party members: I want to congratulate all of you, because the anniversary of the Democratic Revolutionary Party [PRD] belongs to you, since this party belongs to you. The PRD is the party of the people; you own this party. [applause] I also want to use this opportunity to convey my deep gratitude for the presence of that great Panamanian, that man who has defended this country with honor and dignity. Today he accompanied us on a working tour of his home province. That man is President Manuel Solis Palma, for whom I ask a round of applause. [applause]

Mr President, this party appreciates you, loves you, and respects you. I hope you will continue accompanying us on our campaign tours. [applause, shouts] I believe that when the PRD was born, the tradition and era when parties had owners ended. No one owns this party; it belongs to everyone. For that reason, Omar called it the party of the Panamanian people. We are going to show the commitment of the people of Panama, because Panamanians are the PRD! [applause]

I want to thank everybody from Bocas del Toro, Chiriqui, Colon, Cocle, Darien, Herrera, Los Santos, Veraguas, San Miguelito, Western Panama, Chorrera, Panama, and all the areas, cities, and provinces we visited with our message of peace, victory, and commitment to return to Torrijism. This party was established by Torrijos 10 years ago with the clear purpose of consolidating and continuing through new means a brilliant phase of Panama's process of national liberation. The consolidation and continuation of Torrijos' process and ideas are the reasons for the establishment of COLINA, the National Liberation Coalition—composed of eight parties with the common denominator of a platform of liberation, sovereignty, and total independence. The parties within COLINA, parties similar to the PRD, have not only established an election alliance but a political alliance with a high beam reaching as far as the year 2000. I want to ask for a round of applause for all the COLINA parties. [applause]

Today we, the PRD, have grown; its dignity has grown, because that is what the PRD is: a party of dignity, a nationalistic party—and that is what you are; you all represent a people's dignity and courage. [applause] You represent the peasants, humble people, Indians, craftsmen, laborers, professionals, and businessmen; you represent the PRD. [applause]

In creating this party—which he named, gave meaning to, and led—Omar's genius foresight envisioned a political organization able to unite popular segments, intellectuals, and nationalistic businessmen and guide a majority of Panamanians. [applause]

Under his leadership, the PRD was born through the convergence of three major forces that implemented the liberation process on 16 December 1969. The patriotic and loyal Panamanian military men divorced the National Guard from the repressive and submissive oligarchy and placed their rifles at the service of: the people [applause]; the organized communities and their natural leaders—workers, neglected peoples, and professionals who found a means of expression through the system of corregimiento representatives and the National Assembly; those involved in the combative

experiences of the Panamanian people's movement during the 1925 rent riots, the struggle against the 1926 treaty, community action, the rejection of foreign bases, the Filos-Hines Treaty struggle, and the students' federation; the one who served his fatherland and coined the slogan: Neither millions nor alms, what we want is justice; the one who challenged oligarchical authoritarianism and planted national flags in 1958 and 1959; the one who torched himself heroically in January 1964; and the one who followed Omar, the one who is now defeating sedition and foreign aggression, the one who is prepared to defend the fatherland as a member of the dignity battalions, the one who is ready to win glory by taking on new goals and challenges as we head toward the year 2000 and the next century. [applause]

When a group of submissive Panamanians heeded the mandate of the United States to disturb social peace in this country, the PRD entrenched itself and resisted, with nobility and dignity, all the aggressions that came its way. That is why the party, which is marking its 10th anniversary today, has grown in dignity; that is why we are developing a personality of our own. [applause]

I believe the best tribute we can give our guide and inspirer General Omar Torrijos is an avalanche of votes with which we will bury those who are against the fatherland [applause], those who are claiming today to defend the Torrijos-Carter treaties when they are the ones who had disapproved. Those traitors must know these people are on guard and will not let them pass. [applause]

It is disgraceful that these smart people of the past are now proclaiming themselves as democrats when they are members of the same cliques that alternated governments among themselves in the past. They have no moral authority, because all of you know them; all of you know about our adversaries' human qualities, which is why you stand for dignity and sovereignty and why we are loyal to the defense forces that have always protected us. [applause]

I want to make it perfectly clear tonight, on this night of celebration for all the PRD members, that this party was born with the Panama Defense Forces [FDP], is with the FDP, and will be with the FDP, because the FDP is Omar Torrijos! [sustained applause, crowd chants: "Duque, Duque!"]. Let others know the Panamanan people are very proud to have a commander of General Manuel Antonio Noriega's stature, which has extended beyond Panama's borders. [crowd chants slogans]

I tell Gen Manuel Antonio Noriega—if he is listening—that the people support him and that he will always have the PRD's backing until the final consequences! [crowd shouts: "Not one step backward!" and "Duque!"] I want to add that wherever we—the PRD, Omar's party—may be, we will always be in the trench of dignity defending sovereignty and our independence. We went to Guarare and Los Santos today. In fact, we recalled it was in Los Santos where Omar, taking the example of the local community building projects, thought of a government program based on corregimiento representatives. This idea has served as an example to the rest of the world, because it meant true representation and the most democratic government this country has had.

Do not underestimate us, because we are the ones able to negotiate with the United States—and we will, because we are going to tell U.S. officials we want to talk with them without intermediaries or third persons. We must talk as two countries that understand each other as equals, with mutual respect. [applause] We demand that the U.S. Government take its hands off Panama. The people of Panama are a people who love peace, believe in democracy, and want to be free. We are on the path toward improving our democracy. [applause]

To the opposition that is talking of election fraud, I say they are suffering the syndrome of defeat. Talking of fraud means talking of defeat! They are defeated as of today! [applause] I am also telling them they will find us in any field; the Panamanian people and this party will defend their votes wherever the opposition wishes. [crowd shouts: "Duque!, Duque!"]

This is why I tell the Panamanian people that it is not just a simple change of faces at stake in the next elections; it is much more than that; it is the revolutionary process General Omar Torrijos left us. I tell them we are going to return to Torrijism in Panama. [applause]

Today, I told a U.S. reporter that the thing at stake in the next elections is the National Liberation Coalition, which is based on the people—you—who have the platform of national liberation in mind to counter a minority group lacking mass support, which represents the old oligarchy that dreams of returning to power to take away from the Panamanian people all the achievements and rights attained throughout these years of revolution. [applause]

I cannot fail to mention my gratitude to the Panamanian women who have accompanied us on all our tours throughout the world. We pay tribute to Panamanian women today. We congratulate PRD women, because these 10 years also belong to them. [applause] I do not want to tire you, because I think it is right for you celebrate your anniversary. I think it is right for you to celebrate this day with joy and realize we have something in this country worth a great deal: social peace, which a pack of rascals wants to take away from the Panamanian people. But we are not going to let them take it away from the people. [applause]

Gentlemen, on my behalf and on behalf of Ramon Siero and Aquilino Boyd, I express my sincere gratitude. On behalf of my family and on behalf of my children, I want to thank all of you today for this tribute you are paying the PRD on its 10th anniversary. I want to remind you that this party belongs to you. As Omar said: One has to be very stupid to let others take away what you have earned. Thank you. [applause]

## Argentina

### Caputo Admits Possibility of Coup Exists

*PY1703004989 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0031 GMT 17 Mar 89*

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Mar (NA)—Tonight, Foreign Minister Dante Caputo admitted that "there are threats" of a coup d'etat in Argentina and he urged "all citizens" to be alert and careful" [quote marks as received]

Caputo said he "absolutely believes" in "the Army's loyalty and in its historic duty of safeguarding the nation's sovereignty and constitution." But he warned that "there are hawks" in the Armed Forces.

In a statement made minutes before a political rally at the Plaza Italia, Foreign Minister Caputo said: "We cannot deny it. There are threats, but we must also be aware that the majority of Argentines know the significance of a coup d'etat."

He urged people "to be alert and careful." He also reasserted his optimism by saying: "I am certain that on 10 December, Raul Alfonsin will hand over the government to another Civilian president."

### Alfonsin Criticizes Greenspan's Financial Policy

*PY1603203089 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1705 GMT 16 Mar 89*

[Text] Buenos Aires, Mar 16 Mar 16 (NA)—President Raul Alfonsin today explicitly criticized chairman of the U.S. Federal Reserve Board Alan Greenspan. He said that the U.S. official's financial policy, which affects the international interest rates, "represents an annual loss of $1 billion for Argentina."

Alfonsin said that not even post-war Germany "had to pay 2.5 percent of the gross domestic product, while we are being forced to make payments which are absolutely unbearable. These payments are also having a tremendously negative impact on the social sector."

Alfonsin made this remark to a group of Latin American experts who are analyzing industrial and technological changes, whom he greeted at the Government House southern hall.

Alfonsin stressed the need "to change the tone of the rhetoric and to become serious" so that the answers will "really have the desired effect and allow us to move to other fields."

He said that in the field of technology "we are neglected or mistreated by international rules, and this puts all of Latin America in an unjust situation."

He criticized the developed countries because "they only applaud us when we begin the game of democracy and do not acknowledge the existence of poor democracies, although there have been many previous cases."

On this point, Alfonsin criticized Greenspan and proposed a change in the proposal for Latin American countries. He said: "We must use our purchasing power as a form of retaliation if necessary."

He stressed the need "to find the way to expand our markets and to work jointly in many things, particularly in the field of technology."

He admitted that although "we cannot give ourselves the satisfaction of independently developing our technology in each country, we could join forces to develop technologies that will serve our region, within the framework of harmonious developments."

He said that we must "join forces and not reproduce efforts that will have no influence on this region."

He went on to say that "we are enduring a very difficult situation in this continent that is democratic by definition, but which is a continent of violence, of exclusions, of drug trafficking, and of extreme poverty."

Referring to the foreign debt problem, he said: "they continue to impose the Versailles Doctrine on us, but much worse because even post-war Germany never reached the point of paying 2.5 percent of the gross domestic product, just the interest on the debt, if I am not mistaken."

However, he said, "they are forcing us to make absolutely unbearable payments which are having a tremendous effect on the social sector."

He made the point that the debt introduces "a factor in our economies that we cannot control: The increase in interest rates established by Mr. Greenspan. This increase represents an annual loss of $1 billion for Argentina."

He also criticized the drop in international prices "which we do not control." For this reason he proposed that "answers must come not only from ourselves, from within our countries, but also from the region as a whole. These are the integration processes that we are seriously seeking to implement."

### Cafiero Says Justicialists To Declare Moratorium

*PY1603175789 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 16 Mar 89*

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires Province Governor Antonio Cafiero has said that if the Justicialist Party wins the presidential elections it will implement an agreed moratorium [moratoria concertada], which will include the temporary suspension of payment of interest on the Argentine foreign debt.

The Justicialist Party chairman bluntly rejected, however, the possibility that the Peronists would permanently refuse to pay the debt interest. That, he said, would destroy the confidence of the international financial organizations. He added, however, that this does not mean that we agree to the recessive readjustments that have been recommended by the IMF. Cafiero said these readjustments are completely unrealistic. [passage omitted]

### Official on World Bank Credit to Energy Sector

*PY1703025389 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 16 Mar 89*

[Excerpts] Today at noon, after a meeting with President Alfonsin in Government House, Public Works and Services Minister Rodolfo Terragno said the World Bank could grant an $100-million credit to the Argentine energy sector. He also said the power outages will continue at least until May. Here is a report from Government House by Silvina Martinez Porta:

Public Works and Services Minister Rodolfo Terragno said that his sector is not affected by the suspension of World Bank credits, since this organization stands by its commitments and it has also promised to discuss a $100-million loan for the energy sector. [passage omitted]

[Begin Terragno recording] In our case, the World Bank has not suspended its credits. It maintains its commitments with us, and it has also agreed to discuss the next loan for the energy sector.

As you all know, the World Bank has authorized us to use $100 million for repairing our thermo-electric plants. [end recording] [passage omitted]

## Bolivia

### COB Calls for Demonstrations on 16 Mar

*PY1603124089 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 16 Mar 89*

[Text] The COB has reiterated its decision to stage a major nationwide demonstration tomorrow. To this end [words indistinct] for each district, starting at the Government House. In La Paz, the demonstration will begin at 1430 at Plaza San Francisco, where several labor leaders will deliver speeches. The main speech will be delivered by a representative of the COB executive council. The demonstration will be followed by a march along the main streets of La Paz.

In rural areas, the activities in each district will begin at 1400 and will be organized by the departmental and regional labor groups.

It has been reported that after the incidents involving dismissed miners this morning, when they had to leave [name indistinct] Avenue because of the police repression, workers have the moral obligation to support the COB call, which wants the government to meet the people's demands.

### Official Views Police Clash With Miners

*PY1603132589 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 16 Mar 89*

[Text] Interior under secretary (Walter Costas) has said that the violent incidents yesterday were provoked by agents who infiltrated the miners' movement and who have nothing to do with them. He added that the police were given no orders to remove the strikers from the vicinity of the COMIBOL office, as is shown by the fact that at the time of the incidents he was holding talks with representatives of the dismissed miners in an effort to solve their problem.

He stressed that the agents who want to cause friction take advantage of such situations but, he noted, this time they were controlled.

[Begin (Costas) recording] We were holding talks here at my office. The incidents that happened in the morning were caused by agents who have nothing to do with either side and who want to hinder our normal activities. They are simply people who want to provoke incidents. That is what really happened. We can engage in a dialogue perfectly well. These are isolated incidents that have been rapidly controlled. [end recording]

He added that despite the clash, the search for solutions continues. Being considered is a meeting between the miners and the president, which the dismissed miners, with the support of Monsignor Luis Sainz have requested.

### 15 Reported Injured

*PY1603144889 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 16 Mar 89*

[Text] Fifteen people were injured and beaten on 15 March, when police removed a group of dismissed miners who were holding a hunger strike at Mariscal Santa Cruz Avenue. While some groups disapproved of the police action, others supported the decision to clear the avenue. This information was provided by the Bolivian Mineworkers Federation secretary of public relations, Edgar Ramirez.

[Begin Ramirez recording] The results of this repressive action are very painful: 15 fellow workers were either injured by rubber buckshot or beaten by police; 1 was injured by a tear gas canister. Three workers were seriously injured, and one of them is still unconscious.

We are also concerned about the possible death of a minor who was run over by a vehicle as he was fleeing the area. [end recording]

### FRG Coca Crop Substitution Support Reported

*PY1603134389 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 16 Mar 89*

[Text] FRG President Richard von Weizsaecker has reiterated his offer to provide 30 million marks to support the coca crop substitution and development plan, PIDYS. This information has been supplied by Alternative Development Under Secretary Anibal Aguilar Gomez, who said that this cooperation of the FRG Government results from a report he submitted to the FRG congress on the coca substitution work. Aguilar added that the talks with FRG congressmen were positive because the report on the progress and targets that have been met to date was approved. Aguilar said that FRG authorities promised to sponsor a meeting of donor countries to present the PIDYS to the international community. The under secretary said that there are good prospects for the PIDYS and that its implementation will improve after the meeting of donor nations.

## Chile

### Pinochet Speaks on Constitution, Economy

*PY1603212189 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 1421 GMT 11 Mar 89*

[Speech to the nation by President Augusto Pinochet from the Diego Portales building in Santiago, celebrating the 8th anniversary of the promulgation of the Chilean Constitution—live]

[Text] President of the Women Volunteers, members of the honorable government junta and their distinguished wives, president of the Supreme Court, Apostolic Nuncio and dean of the Diplomatic Corps, (Ina Rosa Magman de Gonzalez Videla), former members of the government junta and their distinguished wives, comptroller general of the Republic, members of the State Council, members of the Supreme Court, members of the Constitutional Court, members of the Economic and Social Council, representative of the bishop cardinal of Santiago, under secretaries, members of Women's Volunteers, ladies and gentlemen, Chileans.

Countrymen, today is a very important day for the fatherland. I would like to address all Chileans to convey a message of unyielding faith and profound conviction that we are moving toward a prosperous and free Chile, for which we have struggled so hard and which will be a valuable legacy for future generations.

Eight years have passed since that solemn 11 March 1981, a day of profound meaning for the future of the nation. The national Constitution went into effect on that date. Its promulgation was the fulfillment of one of the basic objectives of the liberating movement of 11 September 1973. That date was also the beginning of the first government term in accordance with the new constitutional regulations that were defined as a stage of transition toward a full, stable, and participative democracy.

On that date the Armed Forces and the police took an oath before God and the national emblem to obey and to enforce the Constitution even at the risk of their lives. [applause]

This is how the process of national reconstruction that began on 11 September 1973 came to an end, a process that was instigated by the Armed Forces and Carabineros answering the call of the great majority of the people who were overwhelmed by the worst crisis faced by Chile in its history.

However, today many of the people who witnessed the possibility of a civil war seem to have forgotten those tragic thousand days of hate, forgotten the progressive disintegration of the national soul and the widespread destruction of the productive life of the country which characterized the Marxist Popular Unity government. What is worse is that many times people fail to convey to future generations the real martyrdom of the fatherland caused by the painful days of violence and raving demagoguery. Some people do not want to admit this fact and hypocritically distort the truth.

Many people do not seem to recall the presence of thousands of agents of international communism who manipulated the minds of our people by spreading hate, encouraging plundering, while simultaneously subduing Chileans through armed attacks while crying out for peace.

The evidence of these wrong actions was hidden by the Marxist Popular Unity government whose main representatives gradually allowed arms and guerrillas to enter the country with which to install in Chile a totalitarian regime under Moscow.

Unfortunately, the overall crisis that affected our fatherland could not be prevented by the appropriate institutions created under the 1925 Constitution, despite the fact that a much advertised set of amendments on constitutional guarantees was attached to it. This set of amendments was the result of a pact between the then Christian Democratic Party government and the alliance of Marxist parties of the Popular Unity, which later assumed power, replacing the Christian Democratic Party.

This was tangible evidence that the Constitution in force at that time permitted the advent to power of a totalitarian tyranny. Our tradition of freedom and the sovereign Chile that was forged by our forebears were about to end.

Faced with that imminent danger, all national sectors reacted with energy and the people asked the Armed Forces and the Carabineros to assume their responsibility and to safeguard the existence of Chile as a free nation, which was seriously threatened by totalitarianism.

This obvious danger was reflected by the serious violation of our state of law, which was recognized by the Supreme Court, the comptroller general, and the Chamber of Deputies. Many of the members of that Chamber now hypocritically try to ignore their participation in the liberating movement of 11 September 1973. History, however, cannot ignore that this movement is the best endorsement of those who have consistently supported the national interest.

Faced with those dark prospects for Chile, the Armed Forces and the Carabineros fulfilled their oath to defend the endangered fatherland. They assumed the difficult task of leading the destiny of the nation and restoring the foundations of the national identity.

The creation of a modern system of institutions became essential. This system should be adjusted to our own social features and should be able to successfully cope with ideological aggression, which are common in the world of today.

To this end, the study of a new constitution was one of the first tasks undertaken by the new government. The new constitution had to reconcile two major factors. First, Chilean tradition, the heritage bequeathed by our forebears, and, especially, the values that gave our country its own identity. Second, a set of efficient and modern institutions and mechanisms which would assure the eagerly sought political stability, without which it is impossible to cherish legitimate aspirations for progress.

The newly restored liberty and its rendezvous with Chileans and their values was the cornerstone on which to build the new institutionalization that the country required.

However, it was not an easy task. In order to fulfill this task, the government, over which I am so honored to preside, had to face from the very beginning of its mandate in September 1973 the largest disinformation campaign ever known so far. To this end, Marxism found countless platforms in international organizations and mass media thanks both to unawareness or to biased one-sidedness.

In order to slander us, Soviet communism has resorted—and continues to do so—to its disguised organizations and to other organizations that, even if they are not a disguised organization, lend themselves to its interests, investing large amounts of money to distort the image of Chile. To this end, the Soviet Union has spent more than $200 million, according to a cost estimate made by foreign experts.

Citizens, 7 years after that memorable 11 September 1973, the supreme government—an unchallenged champion of the state of law—called upon the citizenry to freely and sovereignly decide on the new constitution that would govern the future of our fatherland.

This challenge was honestly assumed in the ballot boxes. A clear majority approved the constitution of liberty, as it was called, a constitution fully embodying the ideal of a free society that all of us, Chileans, wanted and deserved. Out of a moral imperative in a truly free society, the state must restrict its activities to playing an essential role within a truly supportive framework.

This is essential for free individual entrepreneurs and the creative skill of those who contribute to the progress and the spiritual and economic well-being of the entire Chilean society.

To this end, the freedom of the people, and as a consequence, that of the entire society, requires proprietary rights to be guaranteed and strengthened. Of course, this must be based on the rightful freedom of human life itself, fully encompassing its richness and aspects.

This has been our basic concern: to ensure and promote the dignity of the citizen at whose service all social organizations and, of course, the state itself must serve. [applause]

This makes it possible to understand the reason why we are so resolutely opposed to a false and demagogic equality.

I take advantage of this solemn occasion to address other important aspects of the institutional organization of our country under the government that I am honored to lead. I refer to the economic and social aspects. What a difference there is in today's Chile compared with that Chile of September 1973. Inflation was then out of control, there were no foreign reserves to pay for the most essential imports, salaries were rapidly decreasing, and the Chileans' initiative was at its limits. Today we are a vigorous country which has managed, with courage and decision, to overcome difficult times, such as those caused by the 1973 oil crisis and the 1982 foreign-debt crisis.

The enthusiastic individual initiative emerges throughout the country. Today, ladies and gentlemen, we export about 1,500 different products and 3,000 enterprises operate in the various international markets. Dismay no longer exists and personal effort acts as a lever.

Our goal is to make it possible for Chile to grow in a sustained manner, thus to offer more and better job opportunities to all the population. This has not been easy. Many roadblocks had to be hurdled, roadblocks that meant monetary hardships for many of our countrymen. This is why in a permanent manner, and consistent with the notion of the state's supporting role, we have extended help to the most needy sectors through various government instruments. The government social assistance network protects sectors of lesser resources, as well as substantially improving their living conditions through health, education, and housing programs.

The state not only discharges its duty to ensure the common good in the area of social problems. In the strictly economic area, the state has the unavoidable responsibility to maintain the macroeconomic balance, since the governments, through their actions, may artificially alter the overall functioning of the economy, thus causing inflation, the reduction of productive activity, and unemployment—factors that can be translated into the economic agents' loss of confidence. Aware of this, the government has permanently been alerted so that the country's macroeconomy could be realistically and properly managed. This management has lately been recognized as efficient by various public opinion and political decisionmaking sectors. This has brought about a real increase in production in the context of low inflation rates, control of external accounts, and proper handling of the public sector. The situation so created has made it possible to reduce unemployment to historically low levels that are the hallmark of a developed nation.

In fact, during the November 1988-January 1989 period, the unemployment rate was only 5.9 percent. However, some attempt has been made to point out a contradiction between this government's economic policy and the personal situation of the people. The government I lead does not ignore the difficulties Chileans face. Nevertheless, the good performance by the economy is an indispensable requirement for the progress of individuals. This progress can only be attained by a constant and sustained effort, and so this is the path we have followed. Unfortunately, only a very few developing countries can make the aforementioned claims. Chile can fortunately make such claims. The populist and demagogic policies implemented in Chile in the past are not the policies that would bring well-being for every Chilean. We must bear in mind that the solution to economic problems cannot be delivered instantly and that it calls for contributions from the entire community.

From that perspective, the government has not only made possible the gradual improvement of the population's living conditions, but it has also acted to accelerate that process within the limitations of available resources. In fact, pensions were adjusted by 9.4 percent in January 1989, even before the date scheduled for an adjustment. Furthermore, an 8 percent increase was granted on social security pensions, an a 10 percent increase in the government subsidy for elementary and secondary education was granted. Also in January 1989, a special 12-billion-peso health program was launched to supplement resources and to purchase equipment. Also, conscious of the need to gradually improve the salaries in the public and private sectors, minimum salaries were increased by 16 percent.

All the abovementioned initiatives required a volume of resources of nearly 70 billion pesos. This sum was available thanks to the seriousness and consistency of the policies implemented. The firm determination of continuing to move down this path and the satisfactory condition of the nation's economy at that time have allowed us to announce further improvements in the government's social programs.

Thus, I have ordered that 7.7 billion pesos, in addition to this year's budget, be allocated to mother-child health programs. I have also ordered that an additional 3 billion pesos be allocated for the education sector, thus strengthening subsidies for rural education and boarding schools. Finally, we will begin a special housing program, ordering that additional resources of 6.5 billion pesos be allocated for this sector, to which should be added more than 15 billion pesos to be supplied by the state bank to the recipients of loans granted by [words indistinct]. [applause]

Our major expenditures will be financed thanks to the increase in tax collection, the development achieved, and the better prices of our export products. We are thus helping to maintain the overall economic balance without jeopardizing the stability of prices. We will continue on this path because it represents a guarantee of continuous progress for each Chilean, thus giving up the ephemeral achievements that quickly disappear.

Continuing with the context of the government's support to the small enterprises, I have ordered that a fishing bill be prepared and approved by the legislative branch, which will include among other things the enhancement of the rules regulating the 5-mile exclusion zone for non-industrial fishing, in accordance with other rules of free initiative, thus favoring the [words indistinct]. [applause]

In any case we want to strees that, for the government, the ultimate objective of the economic order, as part of the social order, is still the common well-being. Those who do not understand this ethical imperative are promoting an attack on all other members of our society, because they are preventing them from having access to better conditions and from achieving their full developoment.

To speak of economic development is the same as speaking of social justice because, as it was established in our declaration of principle in March 1974, economic development is not justified in itself, if it is not an effective instrument to help the poorest people. [appaluse] With this objective in mind, I have ordered that a draft bill be sent to the government junta with the objective of eliminating the 12-hour work shift that today affects a small sector of workers. [applause]

I have also ordered the respective ministries to carry out the necessary studies to make possible the reduction of the quorum that is demanded today for collective bargaining, and also the authorization to create union federation, provided this is done under the labor union law, and with the approval of the members of each union. [applause]

Ladies and gentlemen, our project for a free society is not demagogic or populist. On the contrary, it is based on a deep consideration for humanity and on the need to always ensure the freedom that has cost us so much to recover and consolidate.

The Constitution that governs us today is the best instrument for ensuring respect for the essential values of a higher moral order that precedes the [word indistinct] law. It also allows us to effectively face new and promising realities. Thanks to the constitution, Chile has attained a level of social and economic development that places it among the most progressive countries of the world.

The government has fulfilled its promise to legalize the political parties and slowly reduce the restrictions that had to be imposed on freedom of expression. It has likewise summoned the people to a free, secret, and informed vote to decide on the future of the country.

The responsibility and awareness with which the government made each decision allows us to assert with pride today that Chile is on its way to full development. We can expect with optimism and confidence a future with new, greater, and more interesting perspectives for ourselves, our families, and society. [applause]

Ladies and gentlemen, we have faithfully complied with the institutional agenda of last 5 October. The citizenry has made a decision, through a free, secret, and informed plebiscite, regarding the person who will occupy the presidency of the republic after the current mandate.

That plebiscite was carried out with the government's total guarantee of seriousness, correctness, and openness. However, we have had to face an opposition that used dirty tricks in its campaign. The opposition's campaign was mostly financed with millions of dollars of foreign funds, mainly to besmirch the government.

The opposition accused us, saying we would win the plebiscite with frauds and dark manipulations. But how different the reality turned out to be. Now gentlemen, fraud means to deceive the people, and that is what certain opposition leaders did, through the common political practice of the past called demagoguery. They deceived their fellow countrymen who honestly saw in them a legitimate government alternative. Those opposition leaders did not hesitate to jeopardize our national sovereignty when they requested millions of dollars in economic support from abroad.

Have you forgotten that all favors, especially this kind of favor, must normally be repaid at a very high price? Our main objective was and will continue to be safeguarding Chilean sovereignty and independence from foreign intervention. [applause]

They must realize that no Chilean wants to be either a human, economic, or political colony, because we are a people that look anyone who intends to subdue us straight in the eye. [applause]

Now, I am sure that the worst punishment for those who proceed in such a manner is to be repudiated by all the Chileans who really love their country. Those people, who have offered a sad picture both in Chile and abroad, are today seeking electoral alliances and understandings with Marxist groups based on reciprocal concessions and favors. Without a doubt they will violate those alliances, just as the 1970 constitutional guarantees were violated. [applause]

If those sectors arrive in power by means of (?sharing power), without a doubt they will lead the country to moral, social, economic, and institutional disintegration, undermining it before next 11 September [as heard] just as they did before 11 September 1973.

This is why in the next elections we must be careful of the sale of consciences and of siren songs. We must assume our responsibility fully aware that we are about to decide on something of the utmost importance. I am sure that the Chilean people have learned their history lesson, and that they will know how to vote—freely and without any pressures, be they internal or external—for the government they deserve, government that will continue the progress and development we have attained today, with increasingly better conditions to face the great challenges.

When we first arrived in power, we said that we intended to establish a new institutional order, and that we would never accept becoming a mere interruption between two similar governments.

Today I categorically confirm that assertion, because Chile will never accept being subdued by international Communism, and much less will it tolerate that a Trojan horse be brought into our democracy, for its doors to be opened by the enemy of the free world. [applause]

That is why from this rostrum I ask the opposition leaders to control their political ambitions, because they could become intoxicated. [applause]

Chileans, let us keep in mind that some sectors have proclaimed the validity of all forms of struggle, including violence, in order to arrive in power. They are the same people who were just about to hand Chile over to Soviet domination. The experience we went through in those days was too painful. Today those gentlemen are not convincing anyone, despite their continual talk that tries to hide their evil and make them appear as good.

This is why I am reiterating before the country the government's firm and determined will to prevent and punish the violent extremist actions that aim to destroy the democracy we are defending with so much effort. I

am thus appealing to the worthy Chilean woman, who is the basis of the family, because she has the important mission of raising the future generations. [applause]

We all know that our young people are more vulnerable than any one to radical ideologies, and to the false promises of demagogues who sell illusions. In the face of this danger and in order to allow our children to continue to defend our society, (?we must) pass on to them the experience we have gained over the years and the deep love for Chile we inherited from our forebearers.

Fellow countrymen, one of the greatest concerns of this administration is the labor situation and youth, because traditionally, unemployment is high among this sector. For this reason, in 1988 we increased our education and employment budget thus allowing a large number of young apprentices to be hired in companies in the 5th, 9th, and Metropolitan Regions. In face of the great success of this system in work habits and job training, the government has decided to consider extending this system to the rest of the Chilean regions. [applause]

Without detracting from this scheme, the government is aware that the most effective means by which youths can enter the labor market is through technical-professional training. Thus, we have decided to increase the number of companies that offer such training, including those in the private sector, especially in the fields with the greatest economic potential, like fishing, mining, tourism, and services.

In order to help finance this training system, the government has ordered the corresponding state organizations to study the mechanisms that will allow them to use part of their resources for the education and training of workers.

Ladies and gentlemen, if we want this great task of progress and development to continue, we must assume the necessary duty of promoting the consolidation of national unity. Given this idea, I call on the political parties which really believe in democracy to make their best effort to repeal the scourge of terrorism from our country.

I also urge the political parties to unite in the task of seeking the common well being of the country, and to proclaim its freedom by forgetting their antagonistic positions which stem from personal desires. [applause]

If we attain this, you can be sure that hatred and the class struggle will never (?take power) again. I thus ask the political opposition to stop threatening to dismantle the work we have done because this would not be beneficial.

Chileans, the institutional phases we have concluded, and the government's permanent effort to comply with its original objectives, are part of a unity that we must safeguard if we are to obtain all the benefits from this great government task. That is why the consolidation of our institutional order, which cost us so much sacrifice, is comparable with the effort by our people during our independence and in the organization of the Republic. So, within this context, I do not doubt that our Armed Forces and our forces of order have fulfilled their commitment with the nation. [applause]

This is how, within the framework of the peoples and promising countries of the western world, we have led Chile to the place it deserves, by virtue of its special attributes as a working and active country, proud of its history.

Such attitude sometimes cause unfounded attacks and misunderstandings. However, this attitude will be maintained until we completely comply with the final objective of the mandate bestowed on us by the citizenry, (?as is) our sacred right (?from) popular sovereignty.

As I said before, today we are celebrating another year of our constitution that was overwhelmingly approved by the Chilean people in 1980. This constitution structured a democracy in keeping with the world circumstances, capable of guaranteeing the freedom of the people, their dignity, their essential rights, and the security that everyone wants.

In sum, I can categorically assert that the present constitution completely fulfills the basic requirements and objectives that were the reason for its existence. These objectives will never be forgotten. This is why the basic guidelines of the constitution cannot be subjected to irresponsible changes that may be promoted by temporary or occasional majorities. [applause]

This does not mean, however, that just like any other achievement by man, at a determined historical moment, the constitution cannot be improved in some aspects. This must be done without affecting the essential values and principles [words indistinct]. Today I want to tell the people that I have ordered the interior minister, after listening to the opinions of the various political parties and of the independent democratic sectors of the country, to inform me about convenience of making some amendments to the constitution. [applause]

To do this, we need a consensus among all these organizations in order to consolidate the amendment process before the November 1989 elections, and in accordance with the provisions of the constitution itself.

Based on this, and although prematurely, I have found it convenient to point out some specific points which, according to the government judgment, should be eventually considered.

Thus, among other things, I have found the proposals related to Article 8 interesting. These proposals reaffirm that the provisions established in Article 8 do not seek to persecute ideas as such.

Moreover, the amendment mechanisms include the abolition of the president's power to dissolve the Chamber of Deputies and the abolution of the power the president has to expell people from the country or to forbid their return during a state of siege.

I also find it appropriate to consider the suggestions referring to the inclusion of new members within the national security council, as well as the norms about shortening the presidential term. The other provisions on this matter should be maintained.

Chilean men and women: on this delicate and important matter of a constitutional amendment, I want to repeat that the government's sole objective in considering the possibility of amending the constitution is that of improving it in those aspects about which there is consensus among all democratic sectors of the country.

Consequently, our objective is unlike that of those who intend to dismantle the new institutional order, or who think that the President has a hidden personal ambition. [applause]

This is why the president of the Republic and the Armed Forces and the forces of order have acted, and will always act, with generosity, unselfishness, and honesty. [applause]

Therefore, those who once confronted us must today change their attitude in order to consolidate the great task being carried out by our government. They must try to (?seek) and find a consensus while taking into consideration supreme and permanent national interests.

Fellow countrymen, I trust that all Chileans will assume with patriotism, honesty, and responsibility, the ethical and imperative duty of allowing our country to progress in the only way that can lead it to its full cultural, social, economic, and political development. If they so do, the Chilean people will be living up to their commitment to those who defended our freedom with sacrifice, even sacrificing their lives.

We want to continue to be faithful to our principles and traditions. That is why it is absolutely necessary to allow the regime to project itself and to comply with each and every objective proposed today.

Knowing the strength of our people and trusting that each Chilean man and woman will assume their responsibility, I ask God to turn our project for a free society into a reality not only for today but for the future. The best destiny that the whole nation deserves lies in that reality. Viva Chile. [applause]

## Center-Right Coalition Officially Formed

*PY1603153489 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 16 Mar 89*

[Text] In the presnce of some 50 members of the parties that comprise it, The Center-Right Political Coalition [Coalicion Politica de Centro Derecha] has been officially formed. The ceremony, held at the National Party headquarters in the old and venerable Fernandez Concha Club, was presided over by Sergio Onofre Jarpa, Patricio Phillips, and Jaime Tormo.

During the ceremony, Radical Democratic Party head Jaime Tormo said that the three parties will now start analyzing their common positions, under the effective coordination of National Renewal Secretary Andres Allamand.

Jorge Martinez, of the National Party, then read a joint declaration. The three parties reported that one of their goals is to restore the middle class's dignity and its opportunities for jobs, because this class has always been the greatest sponsor of national intellectual, material, and social development.

Another goal is to prevent the coalition from becoming a super party or merging with other parties. This coalition will continue to exist as such, and its objective is to promote cooperation, both among member parties and with parties that may want to join them in the future.

The first official act of the Center-Right Political Coalition was to send a cable to U.S. President George Bush to point out the serious consequences of the measures the United States has adopted against Chilean fruits.

The cable, which was read by Andres Allamand, stated:

[Begin recording] In view of the groundless and exaggerated measures taken by some members of your administration against Chilean fruit exports, we call your attention to the fact that these measures will ruin a large sector of Chilean private enteprise, will leave hundreds of thousands of workers jobless, and will cause a serious imbalance in our balance of payments. These measures will seriously affect the good relations the Chilean people have always had with the U.S. people, and they will deeply injure those who, like us, defend free economy and free trade.

Most serious, however, is the fact that these measures apparently reward the terrorist activities against Chile, because they help the terrorists achieve their goals. [end recording]

The cable adds that Chile has earned justified prestige as a serious and effective exporter; that it has been honoring its foreign debt at a sacrifice; and that it has cooperated in several public welfare projects sponsored by the U.S. Government. In view of all that, the coalition requests an urgent solution to the problem.

## Continued Reportage on Fruit Poisoning Issue

### Merino Criticizes U.S.

*PY1703020789 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 16 Mar 89*

[Text] Speaking again on the problem of the markets closed to Chilean fruit in the United States, Japan, and Canada, Navy Commander in Chief Admiral Jose Toribio Merino Casro has said, quote: This is the consequence of second-rate and poorly qualified [mala clase] officials who have done these things and who are the result of a public administration with obtuse politicians who unfortunately control the free world now.

The Navy commander in chief, who is also a member of the military government junta, made these remarks at the end of a ceremony to dedicate the new Vina del Mar air-sea base in Concon today shortly after noon.

Elsewhere in his remarks on fruit products, Adm Merino said, quote: In my opinion, this mean thing that the Americans have done against Chile is due to the obtuse culture of that country. They are incapable of thinking. They do not have any idea of what Chile is like. They do not realize the tremendous catastrophe they are causing in our country when all of a sudden they drop a $1-billion hydrogen bomb on an economy that operates with about $3 billion, unquote.

The Navy commander in chief said that, concerning its policies and ways, the United States is an unreliable country. It is less reliable than the Soviet Union, he said.

Concerning the Japanese, who have closed their markets to Chilean fruit, Merino said: I have held all their fishing boats in our ports. None of them will fish for anything, Adm Merino said, until they open their market for Chilean fruit.

Elsewhere in his chat with journalists at Torquemada airport in Concon, Merino said the economic damage due to the fruit problem is equivalent to one-third of Chile's economic operations.

The air-sea base dedicated today includes a runway 1,750 meters long and 30 meters wide that can accomodate military and commercial airplanes.

### Japanese Fishing Ships Held

*PY1703022089 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 0245 GMT 17 Mar 89*

[Text] Valparaiso, 16 Mar (AFP)—The Chilean Navy will not allow five Japanese fishing ships to sail from Chilean ports until Japan lifts the embargo on Chilean grapes in Japanese markets.

Navy Chief of Staff Admiral Jose Toribio Merino criticized the Japanese attitude of following the U.S. decision withdrawing Chilean grapes from their markets after traces of cyanide were found in a bunch of grapes.

"Chile will seek new markets. We will continue selling, and whoever wants to negotiate with us, he will have to buy. If someone wants to sell us something, he must buy something from us of a similar price," the admiral said.

"As for the Japanese, who closed their markets to Chilean fruit, I have their fishing ships in our ports. No one will fish until the fruit market is opened," the Navy chief of staff said during a ceremony to dedicate an air-sea base in Valparaiso, 110 km west of Santiago.

Commander Patricio Urbina, the maritime governor of Valparaiso, said that the Japanese fishing ships "are not allowed to sail." He said that two of them are in the port on Punta Arenas, two are in the port of Talcahuano, and one is in the port ot Chacabuco.

He said that a sixth Japanese ship that is sailing in Antarctic waters will be held once it arrives in a Chilean port.

### U.S. Consulate Protest

*PY1703024889 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 16 Mar 89*

[Excerpts] National Agricultural Association President Jose Moreno and Confederation of Agricultural Producers President Domingo Duran have called a protest demonstration in front of the U.S. Consulate at Parque Forestal tomorrow at 1000 in order to repudiate a U.S. decision to suspend export shipments of Chilean fruit. [passage omitted]

In view of the serious situation arising from the embargo on Chilean fruit in the United States and other countries in the world, this afternoon the Coalition of Parties for Democracy agreed to send a delegation headed by Patricio Aylwin to the U.S. Embassy in Santiago tomorrow at 0900 to express the concern of the democratic parties about this event. The delegation will also go to the Spanish Embassy at 1000 to talk to the EEC representatives. [passage omitted]

### U.S. Denies Market Influence

*PY1603194689 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 16 Mar 89*

[Excerpts] U.S. Ambassador to Chile Charles Gillespie has said that the U.S. Government has not issued any instruction banning Chilean products. [passage omitted]

A joint communique signed by the Chilean and U.S. Governments has been released at the Foreign Ministry. The communique states that the two governments will continue to cooperate closely and in an urgent manner to

solve the problem that has affected Chilean fruit exports. This follows a meeting between U.S. Secretary of State James Baker and the Chilean foreign and agriculture ministers in Washington.

Lawyer and businessman Ricardo Claro Valdes has said that U.S. ambassador to Chile Charles Gillespie lied when he said—as he was leaving the Foreign Ministry—that his country has not influenced the closure of the world market to Chilean fruit. Ricardo Claro said:

[Begin Claro recording] I believe that Ambassador Gillespie unfortunately has not told the truth. I have here a photocopy of a note sent yesterday by an official of the Agriculture Trade Office in the U.S. Consulate in Sheba, Saudi Arabia, to one of the main shippers of Chilean fruit who is now importing a large shipment. The note is attached to the telex from the U.S. Secretary of State. The note is handwritten. It says: Thought this would be very interesting, and [words indistinct].

I do not know why a telex which said that Chilean fruit has been poisoned would be interesting. Perhaps it is just to impede the operation, to frighten the importer. This is an underhanded attitude that I must denounce. [end recording]

Ambassador Gillespie is a respectable person, but either he ignores facts or he has distorted the truth, Ricardo Claro Valdes added.

As for the diplomatic official who sent the note to the Saudi Arabian importer, Claro noted that he may have been recalled to Washington and he may eventually be dismissed.

[Begin Claro recording] I do not know whether this information is correct. I am trying to confirm it. This seems to be a retreat by the U.S. Department of State upon being discovered. I also have information that there are diplomatic officials in Europe who have reported to the foreign ministries of some countries with the same purpose. I an also trying to confirm this. [end recording]

Ricardo Claro Valses told PRIMERA PLANA that apparently the United States is beginning to realize that a serious problem has been created in Chile, and Chileans have rallied against the U.S. attitude.

PRIMERA PLANA informs the public that the U.S. official who works at the U.S. Embassy in Saudi Arabia and who may have been recalled to Washington is John Williams.

### PCCh, Opposition Blamed

*PY1603174589 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 16 Mar 89*

[Text] Upon leaving a ministerial meeting, presided over by President Pinochet, Government Secretary General Minister Miguel Angel Produje has reported that, on orders of the president of the Republic, Finance Minister Hernan Buchi will announce a strategy to solve the difficulties of the fruit workers.

Minister Produje denounced what he called the fruit plan implemented by the outlawed PCCh:

[Begin recording] [Produje] In the security field, we are aware of a plan for terrorist attacks and sabotage, which the public opinion unanimously...

[Reporter...interrupting] [Question indistinct]

[Produje] We are analyzing the data. The system employed and the available data clearly point toward the PCCh terrorist activities. We have documents showing that the PCCh released instructions regarding a so-called fruit plan, which was aimed at destroying Chile's progress in exporting fruit. [end recording]

Minister Produje also said that those who have clearly asked foreign countries to boycott the Chilean exports are also responsible for this incident. Asked to support his charges, the minister said that the government already had information on the plan. He said the information was obtained from documents found in several raids.

Asked if the government will adopt any measure to support the workers, Minister Produje said:

[Begin Produje recording] I would like to point out that the president of the Republic has asked the finance minister to announce, probably tomorrow, a new strategy to help solve the economic and financial problem being created by the (?U.S.) measures. It has been officially reported that this strategy will be based on available national resources. This problem has several different aspects, and each one of them will be given a concrete solution. [end recording]

Asked about how many people would benefit from this program, Produje said it will assist more than 200,000 fruit workers, affected by the crisis.

### PCCh Denies Involvement

*PY1603135689 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 16 Mar 89*

[Text] Visibly nervous and upset, PCCh spokesman Jaime Insulsa has reiterated that the Marxist organization denies any participation in the dabotage against Chilean fruit exports.

The impact of this attack on the Chilean economy is so great that the Communists changed the topic of the news conference. They were going to report on the achievements of their 15th Congress, which promotes the people's mass rebellion. Instead, during the news conference, the PCCh commented on the poisoned grapes incident.

The PCCh insisted that the possibility of insufficient control over fruit exports cannot be discarded. They agreed, however, that there may have been sabotage.

[Begin Insulsa recording] We are not denying the possibility of sabotage. We are only saying that the PCCh has no responsibility whatsoever for the incident, as the facts have just shown.

Sabotage is only one of the possibilities. If there has been any sabotage, however, it has not been by the Communists. International trade rivals may have sabotaged the grapes. It may also have been done by any country's ultrarightist or nationalist groups, by the Mafia, or even by U.S. Government sectors. [end recording]

The Communists, who are reacting nervously to the distrust all Chileans feel toward them, said they are studying the possibility of filing a lawsuit against Interior Minister Carlos Caceres, who charged them with involvement in the fruit incident that has upset the entire country.

### Truck Owners To Demonstrate

*PY1703112089 Santiago TV National in Spanish 1800 GMT 16 Mar 89*

[Text] Many trucks will demonstrate in downtown Santiago to protest the U.S. ban on the import of Chilean fruits. The demonstration, which will be staged tomorrow, is being organized by the National Confederation of Truck Owners.

Confederation Chairman Julio Lagos has commented on the demonstration. He said some 1,000 trucks from the Fifth and Eighth Regions will arrive in Santiago at around 1000 tomorrow. Lagos said the demonstration is to defend the workers' dignity in the face of the U.S. measures against Chilean fruit. He added that some 10,000 fruit transportation workers have already been affected by the U.S. decision. He said that several people have already been dismissed and many others could not be paid.

## Reportage on Bomb Attacks, Results

### Blackout in Santiago

*PY1103203789 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1421 GMT 11 Mar 89*

[Text] Santiago, 11 Mar (TELAM)—A bomb attack caused a blackout in Santiago early this morning. La Moneda Palace, the government house, is in the affected area.

The blackout lasted half an hour and partially interrupted radio broadcasting and railroad service.

The bomb attack reportedly damaged one or more of the high tension pylons that supply electricity to Santiago from the Rapel Dam, 70 km southwest of the capital. The attack affected the power network that brings electricity to Santiago.

The attack occurred the day General Augusto Pinochet celebrates his eighth year of governing according to the current Constitution. Pinochet, who will deliver a speech to the nation today on radio and television network, will remain in office for one more year. In 1990 Pinochet will hand over the government to the man elected by Chileans on 14 December 1989.

### Bus Destroyed

*PY1103204689 Santiago Domestic in Spanish 1600 GMT 11 Mar 89*

[text] A few minutes ago, a bus was completely destroyed by a bomb at the corner of Vicuna Mackenna and Matta Avenues.

The attack occurred as the ceremony at the Diego Portales Building to mark the 8th anniversary of the 1980 constitution was ending.

Personnel from the 10th fire brigade went to the scene and used chemicals to put out the fire that destroyed the bus.

The passengers on the bus could hear the explosion of Molotov cocktails, which were thrown by unidentified individuals who managed to escape.

### Cause Damage, Blackouts

*PY1303162089 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 13 Mar 89*

[Excerpts] Several Santiago districts were without lights last night as a result of terrorist attacks on power towers during the night of 11 March. Chiletrica reported yesterday that the energy was cut to enable technicians to repair the damage. [passage omitted]

Routine Sunday activities were upset by the outage. Several stores, particularly bakeries, could not function normally and had to use their private generators. Several traffic lights were also out of order. The dynamite attacks also affected the 8th Region.

The Manue' Rodriguez Patriotic Front claimed responsibility for the attacks.

Here is Jose Concha's report from Radio Nacional de Chile in Concepcion:

[Begin relay] A series of bombings has affected the region and caused energy cuts in three Bio Bio Region provinces. At least four high-tension towers were destroyed: two between Antuco and Charrua, one between Charrua and Changuan, and one between Charrua and Itaue. The destruction of this last tower caused blackouts in Concepcion, Bio Bio, and Nuble Provinces.

Official Carabineros sources in the Fourth Region confirmed that the blackout in the city of Concepcion from 2315 to 2345 was caused by an attack against high-tension lines between Charrua and Laja. Endesa [National Electric Power, Inc] sources have also confirmed this attack.

In downtown Chillan, subversive elements detonated a 5 kg ammonium gelignite bomb at one of the Civil Registration Office windows in the public services building. The shock wave destroyed more than 450 window panes throughout the block. The explosion caused considerable damage to the computer and file systems of the Civil Registration Office.

The windows of Padre Hurtado School, Radio Sembrador studies, the Presbyterian Church, the Credit and Investment Bank offices, and private homes were also damaged. Losses will reportedly amount to several thousand dollars.

In Talcahuano Port, terrorists detonated a bomb in the (Villacero) District at about 2230. No damage or victims have been reported.

In the morning [no date, as heard] experts deactivated a bomb in the Puente de Arco District, in Talcahuano Port.

A bomb went off at the intersection of Playa Blanca and Coronel last night. The explosion caused little damage. The attacks, which were reported to the courts, caused no victims. [end relay]

On the evening of 11 March, Coquimbo, La Serena, Calera, San Felipe-Temuco, Osorno, Puerto Montt, Chiloe, and other parts of the country were also without lights.

According to reports made to Radio Nacional de Chile, some 12 pylons were destroyed throughout the country in the last few days. [passage omitted]

[Begin relay from Valparaiso] Part of Vina del Mar and most of Valparaiso were without lights from 2240 on 11 March to nearly 2000 yesterday. The blackout left bakeries and restaurants without lights and interrupted elevator service in high buildings. [passage omitted] [end relay]

## Damage Towers in Valparaiso

*PY1603190189 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 700 GMT 15 Mar 89*

[Text] Attacks on the power system have caused damage amounting to over 8 million pesos. The attacks occurred on Saturday and Sunday. Valpairso was particularly affected, remaining without electricity for more than 20 hours.

This information was issued by the Valparaiso branch of CHILECTRA [Chilean Electric Company, Ltd.] after evaluating the damage and repairing most of the facilities.

Three key facilities were damaged by powerful bombs. The main attack occurred on Saturday night in the Variante Aguasanta area, where a tower that supplied electricity to a large sector of Valparaiso was knocked down.

Engineer Alejandro Bravo, chief of the CHILECTRA Supply and Transmission Network Department, has said that while the company has suffered an economic loss the harm to the population was even greater. Some stores remained closed all day and some bakeries could not function.

Bravo said that Pylon No 54 of the Laguna Verde power grid in Miraflores, in the area of Rodelillo, was damaged by 5 bombs, each of which contained 250 grams of explosives. It was totally destroyed by the bombs that were planted at the base of the tower, which was replaced on Sunday afternoon.

Another important attack occurred in the Ventana area, in Valle Alegre, where a bomb damaged another tower. A third attack took place in Los Abetos Colono Norte, in downtown Vina del Mar, where a bomb was planted inside a sewer.

Finally, Bravo said that he was upset and outraged by these attacks, saying that: "This type of act is inexplicable."

It has already been reported that high-tension tower No 94 of the Alto Jaguelo Salmendro power network was bombed and seriously damaged. According to a police report unidentified individuals detonated a bomb containing 1 and ½ kg of ammonium gelignite, causing some power cuts. Power was restored the following morning.

## PCCh Members Request Military Instruction

*PY1603024889 Santiago LA SEGUNDA in Spanish 6 Mar 89 p 12*

[Text] In an interview with LA SEGUNDA, PCCh spokesman Jaime Sanfuentes said the members of his party are requesting military instruction, "although they have no military ambitions."

He said the PCCh members are requesting "appropriate instruction that will enable the Communists and the people to resort to any alternatives of struggle for democracy against fascism."

Just as we said on 3 March, one of the main demands of the PCCh members in their congress was the creation of "military and political schools."

This was reported to LA SEGUNDA by PCCh members who participated in the congress, but who refused to identify themselves.

After analyzing the initial agreements—the definitive agreements will come out in a national meeting—it was found that the request for military instruction has come from the "brothers" (such is the name given to guests who are not party members) from the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front [FPMR], and based on the principle of resorting to "all forms of struggle."

The subject of dissident minorities, which is part of the policy of popular rebellion, was not hotly discussed by all the PCCh minority factions, which did not manage to consolidate themselves. The PCCh's official newspaper EL SIGLO says the dissident factions are very few. "They did not constitute 0.5 percent of the cell assemblies that were held. The remaining 99.5 percent maintain a unanimous position."

The minority was referred to by some as an "elite group of Communists, a kind of exclusive left that only discusses politics in a coffee shop," complained an old PCCh member who was a representative at the regional congress.

However, the grassroots organizations "are requesting political and military instruction," Sanfuentes said, and he added: "We do not want a confrontation, but we want to be prepared for self-defense." This is not a surprising proposal, since the PCCh has been the main sector responsible in the hidden arms cache cases.

The PCCh grassroots have also requested political instruction in order to improve the quality and quantity of party members.

Other political parties besides the FPMR also attended the PCCh cell meetings. Their presence provoked several internal criticisms, but the congress discussed other subjects, and created special committees to analyze specific subjects, such as the possibility of making alliances with other political groups, the party's military work, reforms to the internal statutes, and mobilization.

Despite the PCCh's interest in the positive outcome of the congress, the organizers made some mistakes. The party had to hear harsh criticisms (especially from opposition magazines) for its exacerbated "Castrism" [exacerbado "Castrismo"], which the PCCh now explains is the result of a printing mistake in the first issue of the summons document. The mistake was corrected a few days after in a separate page of errata.

A source reported that the mistake was caused by "haste and the fear of being discovered" (it was printed clandestinely). "We were unable to publish our views about the Soviet model and its "perestroika and glasnost," the source added. The errata reads that "the renewal of the Soviet Union and other Socialist countries seeks new ways to attain man's complete freedom, the solution to serious problems, and the removal of the obstacles that do not allow Socialism to develop in all its aspects, in a national field and as a system in the international field."

### Official on UN Human Rights Commission

*PY1003181589 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 0930 GMT 10 Mar 89*

[Text] Chilean Foreign Minister Hernan Felipe Errazuriz has stated that the recent vote of the UN Human Rights Commission has confirmed the position that Chile has always maintained. The vote agrees that human rights issues are handled in a discriminatory manner.

With 32 votes in favor and 11 abstentions the UN Human Rights Commission has again condemned the Chilean Government for continuous human rights violations. The Commission also designated Fernando Volio to continue for another year as UN observer of Chilean human rights.

### Peru Releases 2 Chilean Fishing Boats

*PY1603125889 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 9 Mar 89 p C-7*

[By Osvaldo Diaz Tapia]

[Text] Arica—The Peruvian Navy yesterday morning released the two Chilean fishing boats that had been captured and taken to the port of Ilo, accused of fishing in Peruvian waters.

The fishing boats "Belen" and "Tiviliche" were escorted by the Peruvian patrol boat "Rio Sana." They crossed the international maritime border at 0840 and were met by the Chilean naval patrol boat "Antuco," which led them into the local bay. They anchored at 0932.

These two trawlers were released after the fishing enterprise Indo paid $25,000 fines for each vessel to Ilo port officials. The fines are considered excessive and unprecedented. In November 1988, following a similar incident, the fine imposed on two vessels was only $3,000.

The Arica Maritime Administration is investigating the incident to determine the facts of the case and the responsibility of the vessels' owners. The possibility of Indo enterprise filing an official protest has not been rejected.

The crew members of the two trawlers arrived in good health and stated that they were treated well. They insisted, however, that both vessels were fishing in Chilean waters when they were captured by the Peruvian patrol boat and forced to go to Ilo.

Both the employees and the crew have testified before the maritime authorities as part of the summary investigations on this matter.

## Colombia

### Government, M-19 To Meet; Details 17 Mar

*PA1603133?89 Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1218 GMT 16 Mar 89*

[Text] Bogota—The government and the 19 April Movement [M-19] will officially announce tomorrow the timetables for the roundtable dialogues. Caracol has learned that in an already-approved joint statement, the government and the M-19 will announce at least eight points that will govern the roundtable dialogues and the subsequent steps in the process to demobilize the M-19. The document will explain the zone where the M-19 general command should temporarily reside. The document will state this is to be exclusively a geographical area and that it is not a liberated zone from which the military forces are barred.

The eight-point document will also give details on the installation of the roundtable sessions that will be held during the last week of this month. At tomorrow's meeting in Cauca Department, the M-19 will announce the names of its 12 delegates to the work sessions. Thus far, the M-19 has appointed three spokesmen: Luis Alberto Caicedo, Hector Pineda, and Alfonso Cabrera, who will be joined, among others, by Ivan Almarales, son of deceased guerrilla leader Andres Almarales; Ramiro Lucio, M-19 spokesman in previous dialogues with the government; Ruben Carvajalino; and Glicerio Perdomo, guerrilla leader in the Cauca mountains. The M-19 delegation will also include a woman whose name will be announced tomorrow.

The work sessions will have a mechanism for work that will allow the reaching of conclusions by the time congressional sessions reopen in (?June). In a note addressed to Cardinals Mario Revollo Bravo and Alfonso Lopez Trujillo, the M-19 told the Church leadership that as part of the [words indistinct] it (?expects) to have the Church's spiritual guidance during the subsequent stages of the process.

A police inspector will be the highest authority at the neutral zone for the guerrilla group high command's temporary location, which will be defined tomorrow by the government and the M-19. The zone will be established through an agreement that will be signed by Government Minister Raul Orejuela and the M-19's top leader, Carlos Pizarro Leongomez.

### Patriotic Union's Jaramillo Interviewed

*PM1603122089 Madrid DIARIO 16 in Spanish 13 Mar 89 p 20*

[Interview with Patriotic Union Chairman Bernardo Jaramillo Ossa by Javier Nieto in Bogota; date not given]

[Excerpt] Bogota—[Passage omitted] [Nieto] Does this country need a left-wing regime?

[Jaramillo] What Colombia needs is a democratic and pluralistic system involving the most varied ideological and political tendencies, which is the only way to guarantee the country's democratic stability. This is proven, and this is the only system that can extricate Colombia from the crisis of violence that it is suffering.

President Barco invented the one-party government and now we can see where it has led the country. When the nation is at war there are two possibilities: to continue it or to seek mechanisms that will make peace possible. A single-party government in Colombia cannot guarantee peace.

[Nieto] What do you think of armed solutions?

[Jaramillo] I believe that armed solutions—whether right- or left-wing—have failed in Colombia. The guerrillas have no chance of defeating the Armed Forces or of achieving a military victory; nor is the Army capable of defeating the guerrilla movement, particularly with the loss of prestige and erosion suffered in recent years through its involvement in a dirty war in order to defeat it.

If a military solution is persisted with, Colombia will experience a conflict lasting 10-15 years, at the end of which the solution will still be a negotiated one. The Patriotic Union says: Why do we not save these years of deaths and murders and forge a negotiated peace once and for all?

[Nieto] How is this peace to be negotiated?

[Jaramillo] A negotiated peace entails a number of elements and factors. First, the problem is not as the Barco government portrays it—demobilize the guerrillas, then everyone will go home quietly and everything will be fine in Colombia. No, the problem is much more complex.

It entails demobilizing the guerrilla movement and integrating it into civilian life, which involves a number of guarantees, such as the elimination of the paramilitary groups. I am in favor of the reintegration of the entire guerrilla movement, but as long as the paramilitary exists, the real and objective conditions for this will be lacking, however much these people's return to civilian life may be desired.

The other factor is that until the causes—I do not mean all of them, but some of the major ones—of the guerrilla movement's emergence in Colombia are eliminated, it will be very difficult. This country lacks the democratic foundations to guarantee a truce, because impunity exists, and the government does not admit it. If impunity exists then justice lacks credibility, and if justice lacks credibility then there is private justice.

Furthermore there is no direct participation by the people because we have a representative democracy that does not give people the opportunity to make decisions. Others make them on their behalf. And the decisionmakers, as in the National Congress, lack powers to decide on the country's major issues. This is a limited, presidentialist democracy. It is the president who decides, and Congress has nothing to do with it.

[Nieto] What is the paramilitary groups' aim?

[Jaramillo] Their aim is to eliminate the country's democratic and progressive sectors and to open the way to the seizure of power for an extreme right-wing regime. They are paving the way to the establishment in Colombia of a regime under which all freedoms are denied, all rights are violated, and a violent minority appropriates power.

[Nieto] The Army says that the Patriotic Union is the guerrillas' political wing.

[Jaramillo] It is untrue. The Colombian Revolutionary Armed Forces (FARC) guerrillas created the Patriotic Union through a process of truce, of reintegration into civilian life by some of its members, but then the dirty war caused the guerrilla movement to take up arms again. At present a rupture with the Patriotic Union is taking place.

We challenge this armed process in Colombia, and the only aim of identifying us as the guerrillas' political wing is to seek to justify to the world the murder of over 700 [as published] of our leaders. However, some of us resist, will continue to resist, and will not join the guerrillas.

[Nieto] The Patriotic Union has recently been in contact with other parties. What is it seeking?

[Jaramillo] Yes, there are reasons for this. We are seeking agreements and rapprochements with a view to initiating a real peace process in the country to end the armed struggle. We are also seeking agreements on policy that will permit the building of a broad front of convergence around our proposal of a pluralistic government. Such a government will need an instrument to implement its policy: a very broad front.

[Nieto] What about the Patriotic Union's relations with the church?

[Jaramillo] Excellent. Paradoxically, though the Patriotic Union is a political organization uncommitted to any religious ideas, relations are excellent and we have always defended the church's prominent role in the nation's life.

[Nieto] How do you view Betancur's government compared to Barco's?

[Jaramillo] The Betancur government was realistic and progressive, even though it was conservative. The characteristic of Dr Barco's government is its alienation from Colombia's real conditions. The cabinet is ignorant of the country, has no solutions or proposals for its problems, and moves in a direction contrary to the real situation of each and every Colombian, and it governs with its attention directed outside. Betancur was less concerned with the international image and devoted himself to seeking solutions for the country. He succeeded in some things and not in others, but there was more common sense and realism.

[Nieto] Should the dialogue with the guerrillas be conducted with individual groups or with all of them together?

[Jaramillo] There is a coordinating committee (the Simon Bolivar Guerrilla National Coordinating Committee, the CNG). The guerrilla movement has accepted it, and it is not intended to seek out each individual group because that would hinder the chances of an understanding. The dialogue begun with the 19 April Movement (M-19) opened the door by means of proposals that can be improved on.

[Nieto] So there is no room for skepticism...

[Jaramillo] I do not believe in skepticism. For instance, Spain experienced 40 years of a totalitarian regime that denied all freedoms, but nevertheless now, after a decade, spaces have opened up and it has achieved levels of development that it lacked before. I knew Spain in 1974 when Franco was still alive, and what I saw in 1982 and again in 1984 bore no relation to what I saw the first time. The first time I said: No, these people will not change in a thousand years. But society has its own forces for generating innovation. The point is that the conditions must exist for these forces to set themselves moving and to produce the necessary changes.

[Nieto] Have there been changes in Colombia?

[Jaramillo] Yes, there have, and they can be seen. For instance, the changes in the ideas and stances of many of the traditional parties' leaders can be seen. Proposals have not come from all of them, but they have come from a number of leaders. But it is no easy matter to regenerate this leadership class, though this process is going on.

[Nieto] How does the Patriotic Union describe itself politically?

[Jaramillo] We are a socialist, progressive democratic organization. Our accession to the Socialist International is currently being discussed.

### EPL Rebels Killed in Antioquia Police Clash

*PA1703022489 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0000 GMT 15 Mar 89*

[Text] Five guerrillas from the EPL's [People's Liberation Army] Pedro Leon Arboleda Urban Guerrilla Group were killed on the La Dagua farm in Salgar Municipality in southwestern Antioquia Department.

During the operation, the Army seized 5 revolvers, more than 200 cartridges, ammunition, communications equipment, subversive propaganda, and several Army uniforms.

The group threw the farm owner out approximately 1 month ago and remained in the area intimidating and murdering people who refused to cooperate with them. This is the same group that kidnapped the mayor of Betulia Municipality on 29 January. In relation to this kidnapping, a letter was found on one of the mercenaries' bodies. The letter mentioned a meeting some days ago with the mayor of Betulia who—the letter said—should meet with one of the rebels. The letter also contained a greeting to all the other rebels.

[Begin Antioquia police chief recording] Thus far, the mayor's statements to the police seem honest. However, as chief of the Antioquia police department, it is my duty to turn this letter over to the regional law office for an investigation as to why it was in the pocket of a scoundrel killed in a clash with the National Police. [end recording]

The authorities also seized a carbine that had been stolen on 26 November 1982 from the police garrison in Frontino Municipality during an attack in which five policemen were killed. They also found documents that proved that the group had intercepted police communications.

### Ecopetrol Director Announces 1988 Losses

*PA1703043289 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 9 Mar 89 pp 1, 8-A*

[Summary] Andres Restrepo Londono, president of the Colombian Petroleum Enterprise (Ecopetrol) yesterday announced that the company registered a net loss of 13.9 billion pesos last year, making 1988 the worst year since the discovery of the rich Cano Limon oil deposits in Arauca.

The losses were caused by three basic factors: terrorist attacks on the Cano Limon-Covenas oil pipeline, the worldwide drop in crude prices, and increased gasoline imports to meet domestic demands.

Fifty dynamite attacks against the oil pipeline prevented the export of 17.3 million barrels, which represents $260.2 million the country failed to receive. During 1988, a total of 326,356 barrels of crude were spilled as a result of a pipeline crack.

Meanwhile, Ecopetrol's daily import of 23,000 barrels of gasoline costs the firm 59 billion pesos as opposed to the 29.5 billion pesos expended for the same purpose in 1987.

Restrepo Londono asked workers to be more flexible in negotiating their list of petitions, and he admitted that crude production has dropped by 10 percent because of "Operation Turtle," which has been initiated at the operation centers. He reiterated that the government will not nationalize the oil industry as the labor union has requested because the current partnership system favors the company, the country, and the workers.

## Ecuador

### Economic Analyst Terms Brady Plan 'Positive'

*PA1603153089 Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 2312 GMT 15 Mar 89*

[Statements by economic analyst (Walter Spurrier); date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] On the initiative of the Ecuadoran Government led by Dr Osvaldo Hurtado, the Latin American countries issued the Quito Declaration in January 1984, which called for a political solution to the foreign debt problem.

Five years later, the Brady plan represents an answer to that call. For 5 years, the United States has refused to involve itself—at the government level—in finding a solution to the foreign debt problem. Now, the United States has responded by saying a political solution to the problem must be found. From that perspective, the Brady plan is positive.

However, in exchange for absorbing a very significant portion of the foreign debt—that is, in exchange for agreeing to take losses—the banks and the governments of the creditor countries require the debtor nations, including Ecuador, to restructure their economies. This way, national investors—who have withdrawn part of their capital and converted it into dollars—and international private banks will regain confidence and resume international financial activities without having to fear the misuse of funds that took place in the 1970's. In that sense, we cannot say we are receiving a gift; rather, we will be obliged to restructure in such a manner, in many cases, the Latin American countries are unwilling to do. In that respect, I would say the Brady plan and the support given to that plan at the highest level in the United States represent an opportunity to solve the foreign debt problem in a satisfactory manner and a challenge for the Ecuadoran Government, which now must change its economic policy plans.

## Paraguay

### Police Officers Suspended, Arrested for Torture

*PY1603180089 Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish 16 Mar 89 pp 26, 27*

[Excerpts] Senior police officers Augusto Caceres Spelt and Camilo Almada Saprissa have been suspended, Police Public Relations Chief Osvaldo Palacios said yesterday.

Caceres Spelt was chief of the Intelligence Department at the Asuncion Police. He and Almada Saprissa are charged with having tortured many people at the police office during the Stroessner regime. A third officer, Alberto Cantero, chief of the Political and Related Affairs Department of the Investigative Police, is still at work, though he faces similar charges. [passage omitted]

Palacios made it clear that Caceres Spelt and Almada Saprissa were only suspended. "They were neither discharged nor retired," he said.

Upon concluding the investigations, the Interior Ministry will decide whether these cases should be turned over to the courts so that the officers can be brought to trial.

Judge Carlos Valenzuela Gimenez issued arrest warrants for three officers accused of having tortured three brothers to death. The victims were Victor, Adolfo, and Sindulfo Lopez Irala.

The mother of the "missing" Lopez Irala brothers reported the case to the courts in 1979. The hearing judge, Francisco Appleyard, ordered a pretrial inquest, but the accused officers were never "bothered" in connection with this case.

The accused officers are Elvio Reyes, Ruben Fernandez, and Salustiano Gimenez. Reyes was the chief of the Tebicuarymi police station; Fernandez and Gimenez were staff officers at the same station. [passage omitted]

### Political Exile Returns After 41 Years

*PY1603205989 Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish 16 Mar 89 p 9*

[Excerpt] Standing on Paraguayan soil after 41 years in exile, Arnaldo Valdovinos said: "I am very happy to be back in my dear country. I have waited with patience, optimism, and complete confidence for this day because I knew that some day all Paraguayans were going to be allowed to return home."

Valdovinos, a member of the Febrerista Revolutionary Party, went into exile in 1948 after serving on the Colorado-PRF coalition cabinet in 1936. [year as published]. [passage omitted]

## Peru

### Justice Minister: Subversion 'Serious Problem'

*PY1503194389 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0037 GMT 15 Mar 89*

[Text] Lima, 14 Mar (EFE)—Peruvian Justice Minister Cesar Delgado Barreto today in Lima said that the "dirty war" is the most serious problem affecting Peru. He said it violates human rights and it could lead the country to a general civil war.

Delgado said that Shining Path subversives win not only when they carry out an ambush but they achieve even greater victory when the Army or the police pursue them, enter a community, and "commit excesses" without differentiating between subversives and peasants.

Delgado states that "the excesses," which are many, have caused a regrettable split between the security forces and the population.

He also said that although the government does not condone the dirty war, there is struggle taking place between a genocidal and provocative terrorism and the Armed Forces that are not prepared to fight subversion.

Delgado talked with foreign correspondents and did not discard the possibility that terrorism may obstruct the upcoming municipal elections this year, and the 1990 presidential elections.

Delgado said "the Shining Path position is not known. Perhaps it will participate democratically, or perhaps it will carry out a policy of opposition, sabotage, and threats against the municipal candidates."

As a result of terrorism, at least 40 percent of the Peruvian territory is under a state of emergency, which means that a large percentage of the electorate is being threatened by the Shining Path.

Delgado added that he does not deny the existence of the rightist paramilitary group named the "Rodrigo Franco Command" which uses similar methods in its fight against the Shining Path and the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA). The political opposition and the press have linked the command to the governing APRA.

This command, which was named for an important APRA official who was murdered by the Shining Path, is blamed for various attacks. Among these are the killing of lawyer Manuel Febres, who was murdered for defending Osman Morote, the alleged "military chief" and number two Shining Path leader, and the murder of mining leader Saul Cantoral.

Delgado Barreto said that "support for the Rodrigo Franco Command cannot be justified, but so many APRA members have been murdered; therefore, how can anyone doubt that there will be a desperate reaction from APRA militants?"

He also referred to coca growing and drug trafficking in Peru saying that the Peruvian Government needs the support of the international community to overcome that problem.

He added that problems have worsened in Peru following the undeniable alliance between terrorists and drug traffickers in the Peruvian jungle.

### Economy Minister Departs for Amsterdam

*PY1503204189 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1800 GMT 15 Mar 89*

[Excerpt] Economy Minister Carlos Rivas Davila departed for Amsterdam this morning to talk with some financial organization that will allow Peru to obtain credits while respecting Peruvian autonomy. Rivas Davila also spoke about a possible reduction of the property tax which, he said, is being studied by a technical committee.

[Begin recording] [Rivas] We will attend the 30th IDB [Inter-American Development Bank] board of governors meeting in Amsterdam. The technical committees will start working tomorrow, and 3 days later we will begin official sessions to discuss the subjects on our agenda. We will study the main IDB projects for Latin America and the increase of capital to finance large projects in our countries.

[Unidentified Reporter] Are there any chances of resuming talks with the IDB?

[Rivas] We have always held continual talks. We never suspended talks. This is the best way to demonstrate that we will continue talking with the financial community.

We will speak not only with the IDB, but with the committee of banks, either in Amsterdam or London, because that is subject to change. We want to meet with all our creditor banks before we come back. We want to show them the efforts made by our economy, and we want to discuss our relations with the creeditor banks.

We also plan to stop over in Paris on our way home. We want to meet with the French economy minister, who is also president of the French Treasury, and with French President Mitterrand, who specially invited us to discuss our foreign debt problems. Therefore, I think we will strengthen our relations with the international financial community, since it is our objective to improve relations with the financial world.

[Reporter] Mr Minister, what are Peru's concrete proposals for these meetings with the financial community?

[Rivas] Well, as for the IDB, we hope to continue the normal disbursement of credits through a bridge loan, just as IDB President Enrique Iglesias promised us. We hope this proves true, and we hope to resume our cordial relations with this organization, which is so important for Latin American development. [passage omitted] [end recording]

### Police Arrest Terrorists in Chincha

*PY1603145989 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1040 GMT 16 Mar 89*

[Text] Colonel Javier Palacios, chief of DIRCOTE [Anti-terrorist Directorate], has reported that the National Police have captured a terrorist command operating in the Pueblo Nuevo District in Chincha. This is his report:

[Begin recording] As a result of coordinated work by DIRCOTE and police detectives of Chincha, the following members of the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement [MRTA] were arrested: (Alberto Leon Joya), chief of the command; (Roberto Carlos Santos Rodriguez), 23, known as Angel, medical aid student; (Luis Yapaco Salas), 40, known as Anibal, civil construction worker; and (Humberto Tatai Colevano), known as Pepe, who was in charge of the publication CANTA CLARO.

These individuals were arrested in operations that began on 2 March. They used the building at 344 (Grecia Prado) Avenue as a military base. In the raid the police found Marxist-Leninist literature; MRTA subversive propaganda; chemical substances such as potassium chlorate and aluminum powder for making bombs; and blackboards, tables, desks, and files for teaching the movement's ideology.

According to the investigation, these men are responsible for extorting contributions from Senator Jose Navarro Grau and industrialist Juan Sanchez Acevedo. They are also responsible for attacks against the offices of the Agriculture Ministry, the Santa Ana School, the Chincha city hall, the Bata Rimac shop, and the houses of shopowners Jose Eleva Novillas, and Guillermo Luamos. [end recording]

### Terrorists Attack Police Post; 3 Wounded

*PY1503133289 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1040 GMT 15 Mar 89*

[Text] Police Sergeant Ezequiel Guevara has reported a terrorist attack on the police post of (Quinti), in (Guerochiri), Lima. The attack lasted 3 hours and three policemen were wounded. This is what he said:

[Begin recording] There was a subversive attack against one of our posts [words indistinct]. There were three guards and three conscripts in the police post. They acted courageously, repelling the 3-hour attack. A large part of the post was destroyed with explosives [words indistinct]. Only three policemen received minor wounds. They were taken to (Guerochiri) for treatment.

We decided to call [words indistinct] a reinforcement patrol of specialized personnel. We hope the patrol will find the subversive group and destroy it.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Guevara] It was a night attack [words indistinct], but I would like to reiterate that subversive elements have been observed operating in this zone. [end recording]

### U.S. Embassy Guards Strike for Better Wages

*PY1703022989 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 17 Mar 89*

[Text] Members of the security guard of the U.S. Embassy in Peru today began a strike to demand better salaries. The striking security guards had to be replaced by diplomatic personnel of the embassy until the problem of the strikers is solved. The strikers, who gathered outside the embassy compound, declined to make remarks to the press.

## Uruguay

### Docking Service for 'Indiana I' Denied

*PY1703024289 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0010 GMT 17 Mar 89*

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 16 mar (TELAM)—Uruguay has decided not to provide docking service to the ship "Indiana I," which is expected to arrive in Montevideo, Uruguayan Foreign Minister Luis Barrios Tassano announced today. He also said the government of Julio Maria Sanguinetti is analyzing a letter from the British Government regarding the recent landing of a British plane at Carrasco Airport.

A report over Radio Carve from Montevideo carried statements to the press by Foreign Minister Tassano, saying that the government has decided that this time the ship "Indiana I" will not be provided docking services at the port of Montevideo.

At a press conference in the Libertad Building, where the Foreign Ministry has its offices, Foreign Minister Tassano explained that this decision is consistent with the terms of the communique released on 12 January 1989 whereby the ship's docking at the montevideo port was authorized, provided there was no intention to establish a direct or indirect regular service to the Malvinas.

In a statement relayed over the phone to TELAM by Radio Carve, the minister said that "in the present circumstances, we believe that such a possibility exists, and therefore we have made this decision."

Denying that the Sanguinetti government had previously agreed to provide services to the Bahamian-flagged ferry boat "Indiana I," Barrios Tassano emphatically asserted: "The government position was clearly stated in that communique regarding the conditions to which the ship's route was subjected, and we promised to maintain a strict surveillance to rule out the possibility that a direct or indirect regular line could be established."

Minister Tassano affirmed that the British Embassy in Uruguay "has repeatedly declared that the British Government has nothing to do with this matter, that the British Foreign Office is not the one trying to implement this service. This is an undertaking that has to do with commercial enterprise. The British Foreign Office made this clarification to the Uruguayan Government authorities responsible for adopting a decision."

Regarding the Royal Air Force plane, Minister Tassano asserted that a conciliatory tone is contained in the United Kingdom's official letter of explanation regarding the Royal Air Force aircraft that landed at Carrasco Airport on 10 February 1989. The aircraft commanders claimed unfavorable weather conditions to fly to the Malvinas, but when they resumed their flight, the plane headed to the Malvinas, disregarding a commitment made with Uruguay to return to Ascencion Island.

Minister Tassano said that "the letter from the British Government regarding the destination change by the Royal Air Force plane is still being analyzed," and emphasized that "the explanations have a conciliatory tone." [passage omitted]

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